





Purchased

74

Date Purchased ..... 12/74 .....

Number 3 . . . . Of . . . . .

N—New

G—Good

VG—Very Good

F—Fair

[illegible]



HISTORY  
Of  
MANSFIELD BOROUGH  
1857 - 1957

By  
George A. Retan, Ph. D.



Pictures Collected By  
Chester P. Bailey

Published By  
THE COUNCIL OF MANSFIELD BOROUGH  
1956



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MANSFIELD ADVERTISER  
Mansfield, Pennsylvania  
1957

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Chester F. Bailey

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THE COUNCIL OF MANSFIELD BOROUGH  
1958



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With Pictures Throughout.



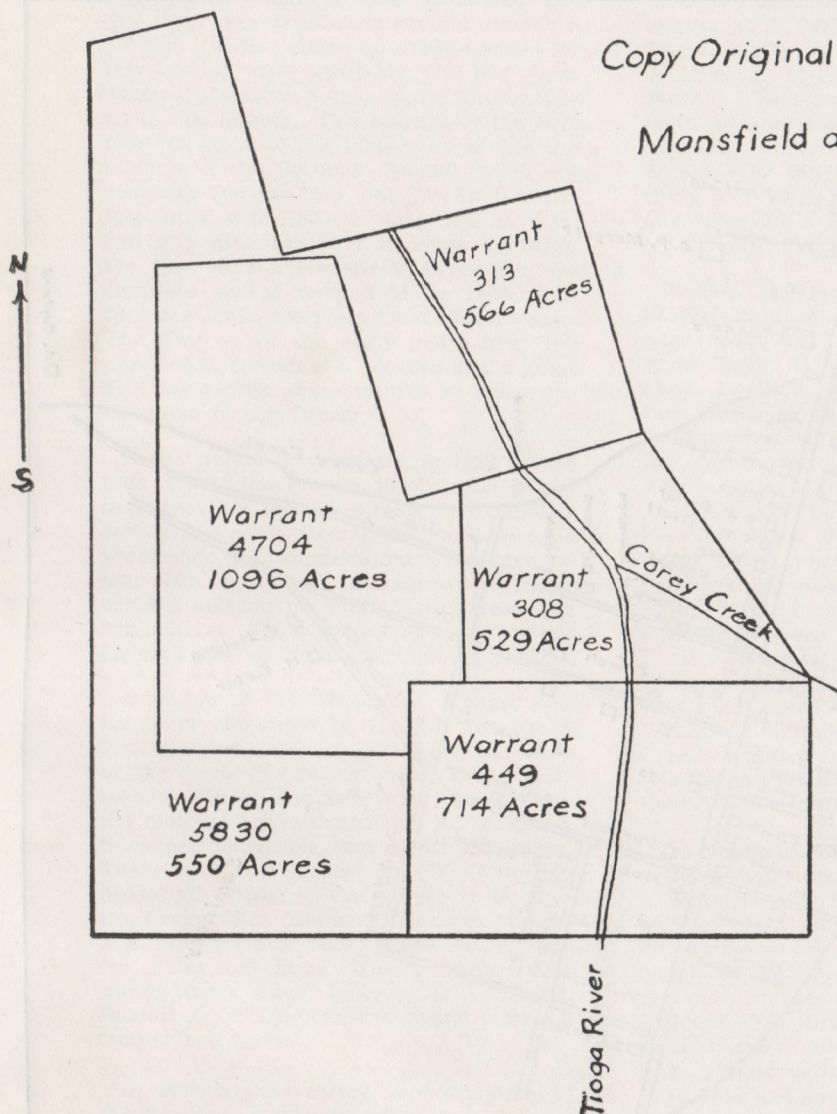
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*Copy Original Warrant Map*

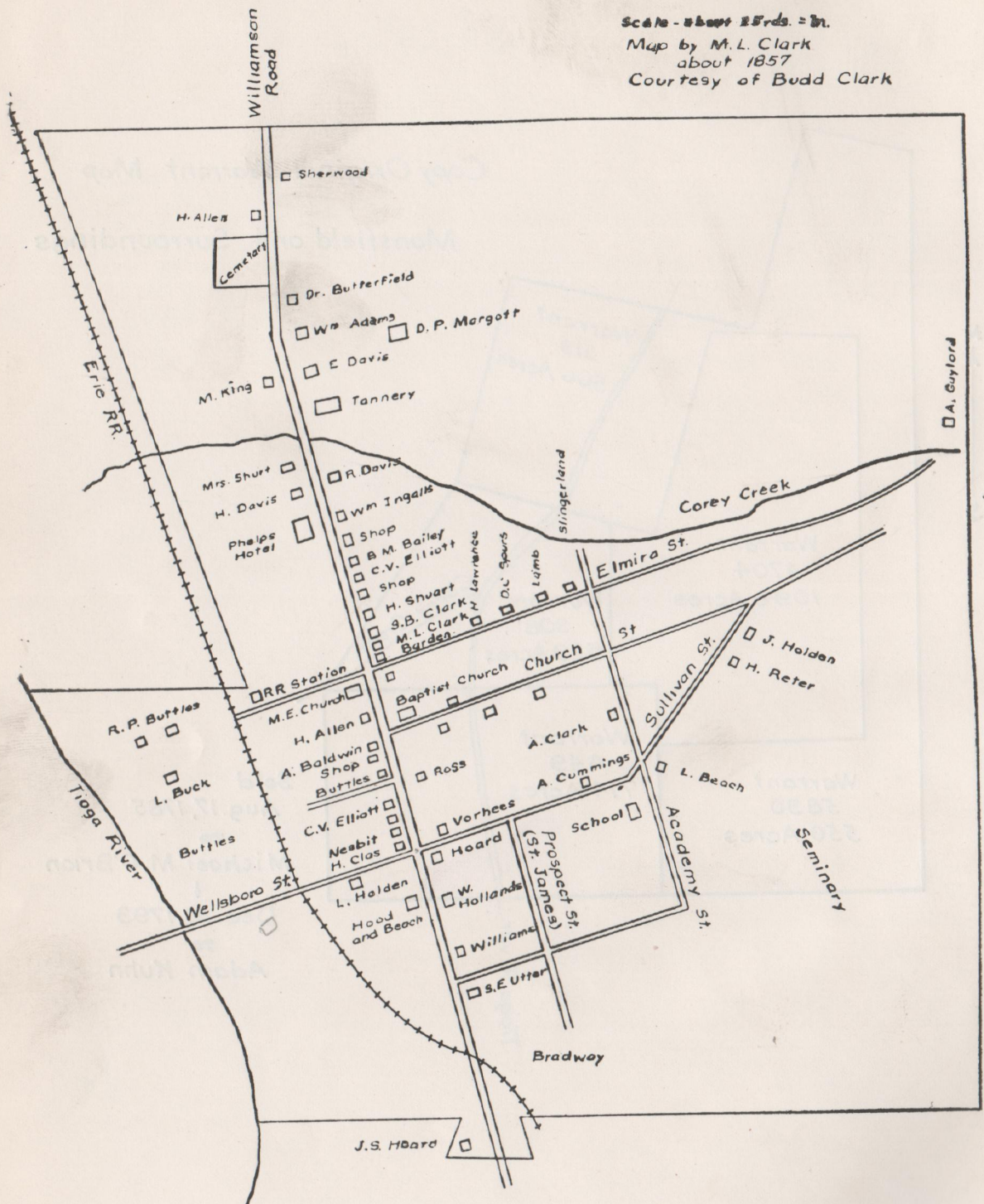
*Monsfield and Surroundings*



Sold  
Aug. 17, 1785  
to  
Michael M. O'Brian  
↓  
Dec. 10, 1793  
to  
Adam Kuhn



Courtesy of Budd Clark





# I. Introduction



THE history of the first settlements in what is now Mansfield has been detailed in several other histories. Since no other sources for this period are available, it has been deemed advisable not to repeat this material in this history. The sources of the first fourteen years of this history have been the minutes of the Borough Council which are complete for the full one hundred years. Beginning with 1873, a date which is incorrectly given as 1874 in some histories, the files of the Mansfield Advertiser are complete except from 1911 to 1929. The files are again complete from 1930 to date. The files of all the early years bear the name of O. Newell and we owe him a great debt for saving these papers and presenting them to the Library.

A contributor to the paper in 1887 relates that in 1831 there were, in Mansfield, fourteen dwelling houses, a hotel, a school, a saw mill, a wool carding mill, a tannery, a shoemaker, a blacksmith shop, a wagon repair shop and two stores, one near the four corners, and one on South Main Street near First Street. There were large pine stumps on each side of Main and Sullivan Streets.

One copy of "The Balance," a paper published in Mansfield in 1855, is owned by Mrs. Margaret Knapp. This was an organ of the "Good Templars" with I. M. Ruchman as editor. His wife was prominent in the national organization and her contributions are about all that is in the paper. There were no locals, but the following people advertised in the paper: H. G. Martin, Drugs; Wm. Hollands, Harness Maker; J. S. Hoard, Brick Yard; Amos Bixby, Plaster, Paint and Lime. The personal cards were: Henry Allen, Lawyer; C. V. Elliott, Doctor; O. H. Phelps, Travellers' Home, a temperance house.

In 1856, a year before the formation of the Borough, a late contributor to the Advertiser mentions the following:

Three general stores; G. M. Bailey, L. C. Holden, A. J. Ross; Drugs, Henry G. Martin; Harness Shop, Wm. Hollands; Tailor, A. J. Howell; Wagon Maker and Undertaker, R. P. Buttles; Bibles and Testaments, J. S. Hoard; Hotels, O. H. Phelps and the Fuller House; Grist Mill, C. W. Bailey;

Blacksmith, Aaron Baldwin; Wagons, Charles Hammond. The Doctors were J. P. Morris, C. V. Elliott and Wm. M. Barden. The Lawyers were Henry Allen and Wm. Adams. J. P. Morris also had an Iron Works. There were two churches, Baptist, in its present location but a wooden building, and the Methodist in the building now occupied by the Adventist Church. In 1855 there had been a paper, THE BALANCE, and later for a short period, THE MANSFIELD EXPRESS.

A map, apparently copied from the first official map of the Borough, which had been made in 1857, has been found by Budd Clark. It seems to have been made by M. L. Clark. It shows the Railroad Station on the north side of West Elmira St. On the west side of N. Main Street from the corner were: H. Klas, Nesbit, C. V. Elliott, alley, Buttles, shop, A. Baldwin, H. Allen. On the east side were only Vorhees and Ross. Between Elmira Street and Corey Creek were Barden, M. L. Clark, J. B. Clark, H. Shuart, C. V. Elliott, B. M. Bailey, Wm. Ingalls and R. Davis. On Elmira Street were H. Lawrence, D. C. Spurs, Lamb, Slingerland. L. Beach was where the Arts Building now is. On S. Main Street, east side, were Hoard, Hollands and P. Williams. Mart King was south of Corey Creek on the west side. L. Holden was on W. Wellsboro Street. L. Cummings was on East Wellsboro Street.

On November 28, 1856, fifty-seven citizens petitioned the Court to set up Mansfield as a Borough. On Feb. 13, 1857, the Grand Jury of the County certified that the conditions demanded by the laws of the State had been met and March 27th was set as the date of the first election of Borough Officers. The Grand Jury appointed A. J. Ross, Judge of Elections and L. Beach and S. B. Elliott as Inspectors of Election and J. S. Hoard, Clerk. The election was held at the home of O. H. Phelps. The following officers were elected: Burgess, Henry Allen; Councilmen, Peter Gaylord, L. H. Elliott, J. M. Casselle, H. Davis and Marcus Kelly.

From the map of M. L. Clark, and from the official map of 1875 which is still in existence, and from the specified lines in the Charter of Incorporation, the bounda-



ries of the original Borough can be roughly determined. The southern line was a little north of what is now First Street. The northern boundary was a little north of what is now Prospect Cemetery. The western boundary was the Tioga River to near the mouth of Corey Creek, then east to the railroad and along the railroad to the north line. The eastern boundary was approximately as at present.

The land comprised within the Borough was originally held by three estates: Asa Mann, who purchased from John and Peter Kelts; the J. P. Morris Estate, which purchased the residue of the Mann lands sold at Sheriff's sale; The Holden Estate. The original Mann lands are, roughly the busi-

ness section; the J. P. Morris lands those west of the Railroad and some lots in town; and the Holden lands were those east and south of the Mann Tract.

The streets mentioned in the minutes of the early meetings were: The Williamson Road; Sullivan Street, east of the corners; Wellsboro Street, west of the square; Elmira Street and road; Church Street, now Sherwood; and Seminary Street, now Academy. The present College Avenue is shown on the map, but not named.

Much of the Borough, more than has ever been settled, was at once laid out in lots. Some of these old lot maps, probably copies of the original, are in the possession of the Council.



HOTEL ALLEN, around 1900



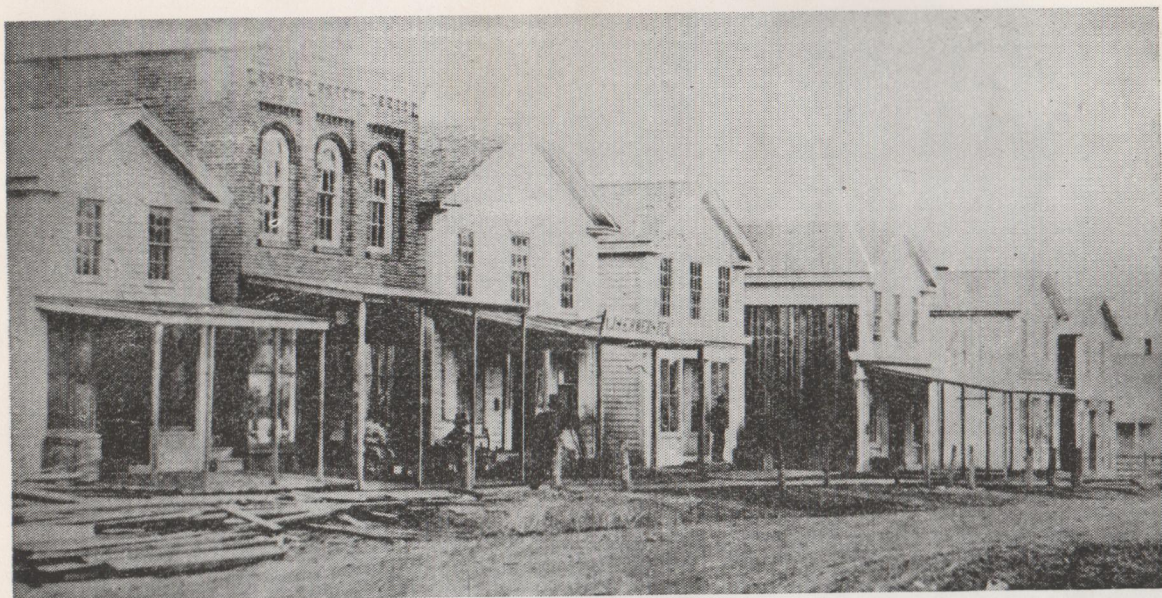


N. MAIN ST., Looking North From Wellsboro St., About 1907;  
Barber Pole Was Reuben Dann's



N. MAIN ST., Looking South From Central St., About 1907





N. MAIN ST., 1866. C. V. Elliott's Drug Store, first brick store in County



WAGON SHOP on E. MAIN ST.; May have been that of  
U. S. Snover, 1876



## II. The First Quarter Century

### 1857 - 1882

#### 1. The First Fifteen Years



HIS arbitrary division of the first twenty-five years has been made because, as was mentioned, the files of the Mansfield Advertiser begin in 1873.

The first important event, coming almost as soon as the Borough was organized, was the burning of the Mansfield Classical Seminary in April. This building had been completed only in time for the current year and was still unpaid for. Nevertheless, plans were at once made for its rebuilding and considerable sums of money were raised and pledged.

The first task confronting the new Council was to raise money for Borough and highway expenses. A levy was made of 1-2 cent on the dollar for Borough expenses and 1c for highways. The Borough levy raised \$54.22. The first ordinance was one prohibiting horses, cattle, sheep, hogs and geese from running loose in the streets. In time a "Pound" was set up and a "Pound Master" appointed. In the "Pound" were placed all such animals held for their owners who could get them on payment of a set fee. Milch cows were exempted from the provisions of this ordinance from sunrise to nine P. M., April 1st to December 1st.

In working out Borough Taxes a man received one dollar for ten hours work, a man and team \$2.50, a yoke of oxen 75c. An ordinance in 1862 prohibited the piling of waste in the streets, hitching horses or cattle to shade trees, shooting fire crackers or guns, horse racing, and driving or leading horses or cattle on the sidewalks. People in those days were no better than in the present as in 1860 Phelps and Lilly were prosecuted for running a gambling house.

Many of the early ordinances and motions passed had to do with ordering sidewalks built or kept in repair. Frequently the Borough had to do this and then collect from the property owners. It was not until 1860 that any crosswalks were built by the Borough.

The Civil War brought financial troubles. The Borough was authorized by state law to pay a bounty to recruits. This was usually \$100.00, but in 1864 five recruits received \$300.00 each. At first the money was advanced by citizens who were given script to be redeemed later. Special tax levies were made; seven cents on the dollar in 1864; six cents in 1865 and 1866, and \$1500.00 in bonds were issued in 1865. The seven cent levy raised over \$1500.00.

Evidence that there was much building going on is found in the establishment of new streets. Cherry Street, now Center Street was opened. The name was later changed after the building of the Grand Central Hotel. Railroad Street, including what is now East Main, was opened; the present Extension Street was ordered opened by the County Court and a bridge across Corey Creek on this street was paid for partly by the Borough and partly by public subscription in 1870; a street called Prospect Street, the present St. James Street, was authorized. In 1868 E. P. Deane was hired to lay out and establish the streets and corners. This map does not seem to be in existence, but the map of 1875 probably followed the Deane map, as did the various lot maps used in selling lots. In 1872 the new Methodist Church was built. In 1870 the St. James Church was built on a large lot donated by Dr. Morris. In a later chapter are listed some of the houses built at this time. In 1869 Mart King started his Furniture Factory.

In 1872 a small-pox scare led the Council to order all unvaccinated persons in the Borough to be vaccinated and fixed the charge at 20c per person. A pest house was also provided in case of need—fortunately unneeded.

An examination of the minutes discloses that at each election there was an almost complete turnover in all Borough offices. Election was held annually in January until 1869. In 1869 and 1870 it was in October. In 1872 it was in January and in 1873 in February. Mart King was perhaps the most persistent office holder in this period. He



was apt to be Secretary to the Council if he was not Burgess. As Burgess he sometimes doubled as Secretary. Henry Allen was one of the most persistent in presenting bills for services rendered, sometimes a year or more late. Although the meetings of the Council were held in homes or offices, the Council at one time bought a lamp, and at another time a set of chairs for their use. Almost half the meetings were adjourned for lack of a quorum. The minutes do not give any clue to the frequent changes; it would be interesting to know what local issues were at stake.

## 2. The Next Decade

1873 - 1882

In 1873 the Mansfield Advertiser was started by O. D. Goodenough, who had formerly had a paper in Towanda. There had been papers here earlier, as previously mentioned, but the Advertiser has continued with but short interruptions to the present. During this period the Editors were H. D. Farnham, 1874; Pratt and Goodenough, 1875; Goodenough and Lewis, 1878; W. A. Rowland for F. A. Allen and later for himself.

This period was one of rapid growth for the Borough in spite of the effects of the panic of 1873, which are frequently referred to. The Greenhouses which Mrs. S. B. Elliott had started were taken over and twice enlarged by Robert Crossley. In 1873 Pitts Bros. built the block at the S. W. corner of Main and Wellsboro Streets. The Soldiers Orphan School, which had been started in 1867, was enlarged by a new building on Wellsboro Street in 1873. The south end of what is now the girls dormitory at the College was built in 1874 at a cost of \$85,000.00. In all, 23 buildings were erected in 1873. In 1874 T. H. Bailey built nine houses on Brooklyn Street. In 1875 the Presbyterian Church was built at a cost of \$1,350.00. The population in 1875 was 1,049 citizens and 349 students. In 1878 the Allen Block, corner Main and E. Wellsboro Street was built. In 1880 the contract was let for the new brick high school and Allen's Commercial School building at No. 14 N. Main Street. In 1882 the present Depot was built. Also in 1882 a fire wiped out the wooden stores from Center Street south for some distance. As a result the Council established a zone between Sherwood Street and Railroad Street (E. Main) of 200 feet on

each side of the street within which only brick structures could be built. The burned section was rebuilt with brick stores in 1884-85.

This expansion created many problems for the Council. Naturally the tax levy had to be increased to 10 mills, five each for Borough and highway. There was a constant demand for more sidewalks and crosswalks. In 1877 it was decided to erect street lamps and to hire a man at 40c a night to keep them lighted and in repair. As soon as some were authorized more were demanded by the citizens. Evidently a few, as one in front of the Baptist Church, had been maintained privately. In 1877, there were 22 in operation. In 1880 a bill for \$1.98 was presented to the Council for 13½ gallons of oil, soap, lampwicks, and three boxes of matches. The next demand was for a night watchman. In 1875 one was authorized at 70c a night for the hours between ten P. M. and five A. M. This service was irregular for years as the Council would drop it, and then after a time restore it.

Another demand was for fire protection. Twice fire inspectors were appointed to examine all the chimneys in town and condemn those deemed dangerous. In 1876 buckets and ropes were bought and a cistern dug near the four corners, probably in front of the present diner. In 1880 a Hook and Ladder truck was bought and a Hose Company was organized with F. W. Clark as President. These early Hose companies emphasized the social side and had annual parties which were the events of the year.

The growth of the Borough was not only in homes and business places, but also in a considerable annexation of territory. In 1873 an ordinance was passed enlarging the Borough to a size larger than at present, especially on the northwest. Evidently this was done without proper legal advice as in 1874 an attempt was made to have the State Legislature legalize it. This attempt failed and finally, in 1875, the proper legal conditions were fulfilled and on September first the County Court approved the expansion with the exception that the proposed boundaries were cut down west of the river and north of the present limits.

The land on the south was soon cut up into building lots. James W. Morris made the official map of the Borough. First, Second and Third Streets were opened and



St. James and Academy were extended to Third Street. Brooklyn Street (Smokey Row) was opened. The present Prospect Street was so named when the citizens presented a petition objecting to the name Poverty Hill by which it was then called. The present Railroad Street was opened and an Alley, now Hoard Street, was authorized from Sullivan Street to Seminary Avenue (1882, Normal Ave., now College Ave.). Normal Street then is now Clinton Street. Elm Street and Lincoln Avenue (7th and 8th Sts.) were opened on the J. H. Putnam lands at the south end of the Borough, known at different times as Englishtown and Paisley.

Much of the attention of the Council was spent on keeping roads, bridges and sidewalks in repair. In 1878 the first stone crosswalk from the Bank to the Pitts Block was built. In 1879 there is mention of a street sprinkler. In working out the road tax, a common practice at that time, a man received \$1.25 a day and a man and team \$4.00. The first sewer was laid in 1880 from the Soldiers Orphan School to near the Depot and then across the lands of Crossley and J. P. Morris to the river. Robert Crossley built part of this of six-inch tile and it was paid for partly by the parties served. The claim was made that in 1877 Mansfield had the longest continuous stretch of sidewalk (Main St.) in Tioga County. Curbing and gutters of cobble stone laid three feet wide were built on Main Street in 1882 between Elmira Street and the point where East Main Street begins.

Dogs and drunks were a nuisance. In 1873 the vote was 244 to 13 in opposition to a license to sell alcoholic drinks. In 1875 dogs had to be licensed at \$1.00 each; 34 licenses were sold. An ordinance was passed against drunk and disorderly conduct, carrying a fine of from one to ten dollars and costs and confinement in the lock-up up to forty-eight hours. A temperance organization, the Independent Order of Good Templars was very active during much of the decade. In 1879 the Independent Order of Patrons of Temperance was started. The paper has much comment on the visits of citizens to Tioga and Blossburg with descriptions of conduct and often with the names of those involved. There was also a good deal of complaint of the Fourth of July celebrations and Fair Week.

Organizations of one type or another were very popular. In addition to the Tem-

perance orders mentioned, and the Masons from 1850, the G.A.R. was organized in 1875. The Knights of Honor, an assessment and benefit order was started in 1877. Literary societies were formed, a public reading room was maintained for several years, a dramatic club put on plays to raise money for various purposes, the Normal Atheneum and the Normal Literary Clubs gave public programs, or maintained lecture courses. For short periods there was a musical Academy taught by D. J. Jewett, a German and fencing school by Oscar Reishling, and a private school by Mrs. M. J. Grey.

One of the most important events was the organization of the Fair Association. For some years Dr. Smythe's "Island" had been used for picnics and reunions. It was called an island because part of the river ran on the east side of what is now the park and the entrance was on the north side. In 1877 a track for racing was built and later in the year, June 27th, the Association was formed with Philip Williams as President. By 1879, money had been raised, the "island" was acquired and an effort was made to get the County Agricultural Association, which held exhibitions at Wellsboro, to join. This was naturally unsuccessful. A building to hold exhibits, a dining hall, 400 stalls for stock, and a railroad switch were built. The first Fair, October 1, 2, 3, was a great success. Sixteen carloads of stock came from New York State. Five thousand people attended on October 2nd. Meals cost 25c. Premiums ran from 50c to \$5.00. During 1880 the women of Mansfield raised \$520.00 toward the \$1,150.00 needed for the Women's Pavilion. That year the receipts were \$2,500.00. In 1881 nine thousand tickets were sold on October 12th. Thursday was formerly the big day, Friday the last day. The railroad ran excursions from all parts of the County and from Corning and Elmira.

During this period there were very severe epidemics of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria, not only in Mansfield, but all through the County. Frequently two or three children in the same family died within a few days. The Doctors seemed to be helpless to stop the spread of the diseases.

There were, in the ten years, many changes in the ownership of businesses. The Tannery, Iron Works, Grist Mill, and Mart King's Furniture Factory were important industries. The Doane Sash and Blind Factory had started, Men in business for most of the period, or all, were: O. V. Elliott, shoes, at 54 N. Main Street; Wm.



Hollands, leather goods; Ross and Williams Bank; F. M. Spencer, Photograph Gallery; Pitts Bros., general store; R. E. Olney, jeweler; J. S. Murdaugh, dry goods; N. Kingsley, shoes; Allen Peterson, barber; C. V. Elliott, drugs; L. A. Ridgway, drugs; A. J. Cole, drugs; L. Cummings, restaurant; D. A. Gaylord, blacksmith; R. P. Buttes, wagon shop; T. F. Rolason, groceries first and then undertaking and furniture; J. F. Howe, coal.

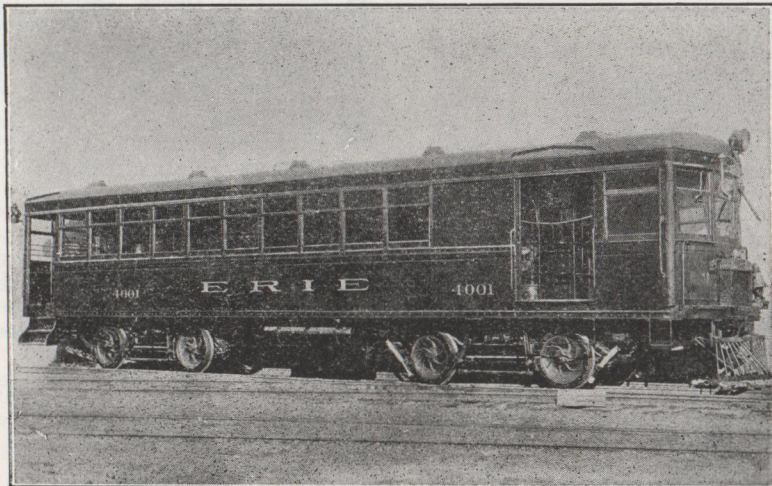
There were now five churches in town, the Baptist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Episcopal and the Universalist congregation which had bought the old Methodist Church.

There were seven doctors: C. V. Elliott, C. W. Brown, Wm. M. Barden, J. P. Morris, A. J. Cole, H. G. Smythe, Benj. Moody in 1877. Dr. O. Newell was a Dentist

Henry Allen, J. W. Adams and F. W. Clark were lawyers.



**NORMAL AVENUE, 1900**



**GASOLINE DRIVEN PASSENGER and MAIL TRAIN  
"THE DOODLEBUG", 1935**



### III. 1883 to 1892



URING this period the Advertiser was published by W. A. Rowlands until May, 1885, when Frank E. VanKeuren bought it. Shortly afterwards, S. E. Coles was associated with Mr. VanKeuren, and this partnership lasted for many years.

This decade was notable for much building, both in the residence and business sections of the town. The Advertiser of Sept. 17, 1884 remarks that Mansfield industries furnish the brick, the ironwork, the casings for the windows as well as the lumber for all the building. The brick buildings at the corner of Center Street and Main Street, formerly four stores, were finished in 1884. Also in this year there was an addition to the Soldiers Orphan School, now 28 W. Wellsboro Street. Alumni Hall at the Normal School, O. Elliott's Shoe Store, 54 N. Main Street, the Episcopal Chapel and sixteen new houses were built the same year. In 1885, the Kingsley Shoe Store, 21 N. Main Street and a new bridge over the river were finished. In 1886, the Kohler Hardware, 15 W. Wellsboro Street; in 1888 the Baptist Church, the Normal Gym, the Opera House and the old Borough Building were either started or finished. In 1889 South Hall at the Normal was enlarged and an addition built to the Adams Block, 24-30 N. Main Street.

This was the period in which agitation finally brought about the beginnings of fire protection, water supply and sewage disposal. A second Hose Company, the Neptune, was formed and the Council bought another engine and 300 feet of hose. Two cisterns on Main Street were connected up in such a way that the hose companies could use the water. More buckets were bought and with the completion of the Borough Building suitable space was available for the engines and hose, and an alarm bell was installed. Several studies were made of possible sources of water supply by engineers and councilmen. By the end of 1892 final action was almost at hand. A community owned system was believed out of the question because the assessed value of the Borough would not permit a bond issue of \$45,000.00. A sewer was built, 1891, on Academy Street from in front of the Boys Building to Sullivan Street, down that street to Main Street, north on Main to Elmira Street, and then west to the river.

The Normal School trustees contributed \$2,000.00 as its share and the remainder of the cost was paid by the Borough. In 1892 an addition was built on St. James Street from a point 125 feet south of Normal Avenue to Sullivan. Trouble on First Street and on Extension Street was met by partial sewers and open ditches.

The agitation for a water system was helped by the bad fires of the period. In 1884 several stores on S. Main Street south of the Pitts Block burned and the Mart King Furniture Factory was totally destroyed. In 1885 stores on Wellsboro Street west of the Pitts Block burned. In 1889 the Grand Central Hotel burned and several guests had narrow escapes from death. This hotel, one of the best in the county, was never rebuilt.

1889 was the year of the celebrated flood, which did much damage in Mansfield. The Park was a lake and many houses in the southern part of town had water in the first floor. The new Iron Bridge over the river was washed out, but not the Corey Creek bridge. There were other floods in 1889 and 1890 which took out the temporary bridge over the river and the new abutments and again flooded the park. In 1891 a new bridge over Corey Creek at Main Street was built.

Some new streets were opened: Clinton Street, Academy from Elmira to Prospect, and Elm and Clark Streets which have been replaced by numbered streets. Doublin Street is now a part of Brooklyn Street; Wilson Avenue was named for James Wilson, who once owned considerable land in town. The Hollow Road, now No. 6, ran south from the river bridge to Ellen Run and then west along the run. Sassafra's Alley was extended from Center Street to Wellsboro Street.

Mention was made of the new buildings at the Normal. In addition to these, the Alumni Hall bell was bought and placed in the Tower in 1886 at a cost of \$700.00. Dr. Thomas was principal until 1892 when Dr. Albro was hired. It has not been previously noted by any historian that the old Gym was built partly with State Aid obtained because of the demands of the "Normal Guards." This organization was trained by Prof. Longstreet. It had muskets and uni-



forms, a sort of unofficial R.O.T.C., and the Gym was considered by the State as an Armory and one end was fitted up for the guards.

Street lighting was a problem. Kerosene, Gasoline and Vapor lights were tried. From 80c to \$1.00 a night was paid for care and lighting. With the expansion of building more lights were demanded by the citizens.

The Opera House was built east of the Borough Building and at the same time, with one wall in common, by the Hook and Ladder Company No. 1. This company formerly had social rooms over Kingsley's Store. It was very active socially and had an annual winter dinner and ball, to which many out of town guests came. Dinner was served at the Grand Central Hotel. When finished, the Opera House was used for dances, roller skating, home talent plays, and travelling play companies. In the front were small stores or offices. A fair held shortly after its completion, raised a considerable sum for the company.

For many years the main concern of the Council was for taxes and sidewalks. In 1884 the Court allowed a special levy of five mills to pay the debts of the Borough. Again in 1888, five mills was levied to pay off the bonds issued for building the Borough Building. Many ordinances were passed ordering sidewalks to be built and the Constable was frequently authorized to notify residents that if their walks were not repaired the Borough would do it and charge the expense to the property owner. Ordinances were again passed about a Pound for stray animals, hitching to a lamp post, riding bicycles on sidewalks, dumping refuse in the streets, drunkenness, firecrackers and playing ball in the street. In the new Borough Building there were placed iron cages for the confinement of any persons arrested in the Borough. At that time they were the best in the county and were used until 1956 when they were removed to the new Borough Building.

During this decade a cigar factory was started at the corner of Elmira and N. Main Streets, but was soon moved to S. Main Street. This was a flourishing business for many years. In 1886 it was stated that three million cigars were sold and about \$700.00 a week was paid out in wages. In 1892 a glove factory was bought and moved here; the Paisley Shawl factory was locat-

ed in newly erected buildings at English-town (8th Street). The Novelty Works at Monroeton were purchased. These industries were secured by a newly organized Board of Trade which raised considerable capital from local residents. A. B. Welch installed a laundry on Elmira Street and Tomlinson took over the foundry on East Main Street. The history of these businesses is given in a later section.

The Mansfield Fair Association bought more land on the south and northeast sides of the Park, built a grandstand, a third mile track, more exhibition buildings and held each year a very successful fair. The attendance on Thursdays, the big day, was often estimated at from twenty to forty thousand. On one day over 1200 tickets were sold on the train coming from Blossburg. In 1892, electric lights were installed and a football game played in the evening.

A brick yard was started at Fifth and St. James Streets, but later moved north of Corey Creek and west of Extension Street. It was run by Barton and French and later by M. S. French alone. This yard turned out millions of bricks which were used in construction at the Normal, the Baptist Church, and stores in Mansfield and other towns where Mr. French had building contracts.

A band was organized by B. A. Strait and the community raised money for uniforms and instruments in 1891. Andrew Sherwood opened up the land south of Hope Cemetery and sold lots in 1887 (Now Prospect Cemetery). In 1889 the Oakwood Cemetery Association was formed and opened up Oakwood Cemetery and the first interment was made in 1891. Also, beginning in 1891, and for several years, the Post-office put up flags indicating the weather prediction. A Liberty Pole, carrying the U. S. Flag, was maintained at the corner of Main and Wellsboro Streets.

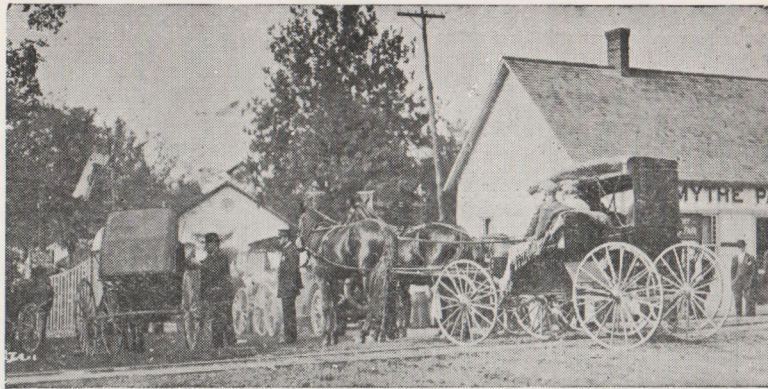
The Lawyers of the period were: J. W. Adams, F. W. Clark, B. J. Costley.

The Doctors were: J. M. Barden, W. D. Vedder, F. G. Elliott, C. V. Elliott.

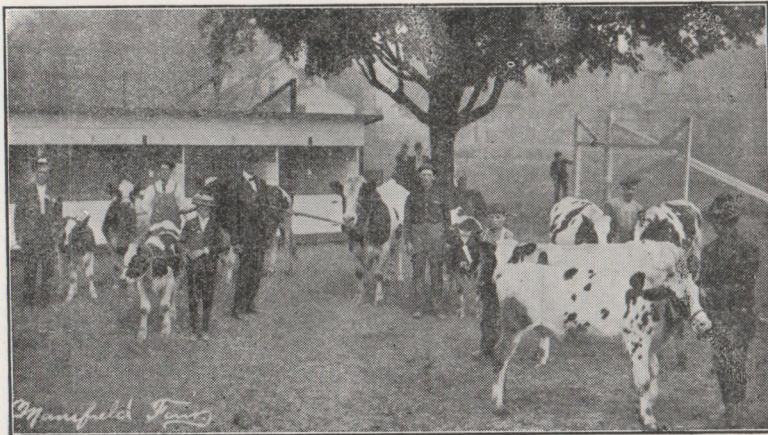
The Dentist was O. Newell.

Transportation: Stages to Troy and to Wellsboro; two passenger trains a day to Elmira and Arnot.





MANSFIELD FAIR, before THE AUTOMOBILE CAME

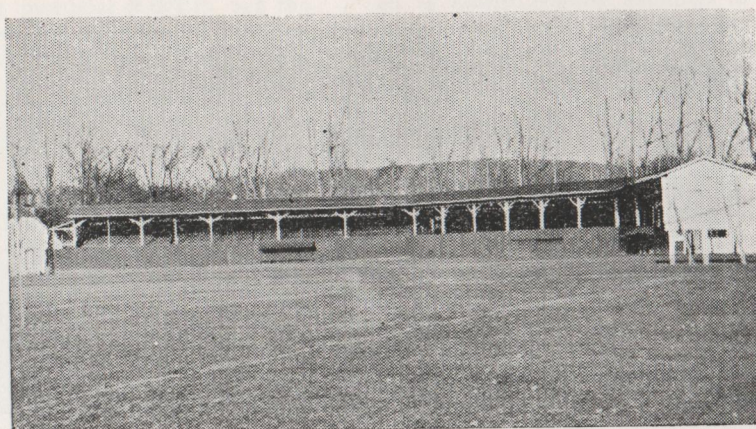


MANSFIELD FAIR, STOCK EXHIBIT

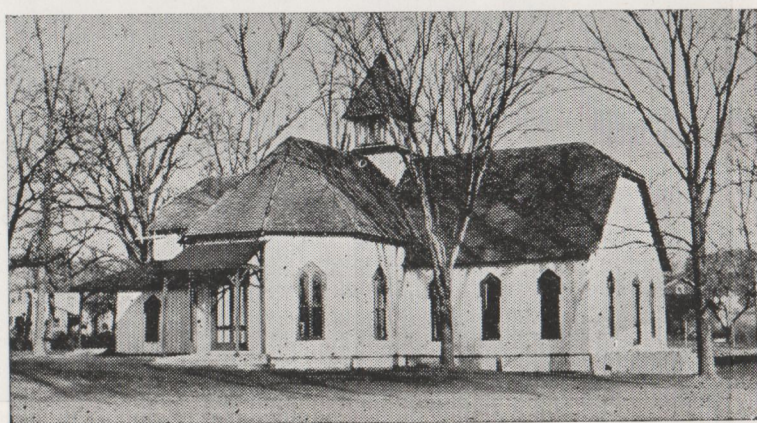


MANSFIELD FAIR, FARM EQUIPMENT





**GRANDSTAND, SMYTHE PARK**



**MANSFIELD FAIR, LADIES PAVILION**



**MANSFIELD FAIR, MAIN BUILDING**



## IV. 1893 to 1902



HIS was the decade in which Mansfield Borough became modernized. On May 8, 1893 the contract was signed with the Watres family for a water supply. The lines were to be completed in September, but due to delays in crossing the river, the water was not available for about a month afterward. The sewer system was gradually extended following a map made by engineers in 1894. In 1895 a franchise was granted for a telephone line which went to Wellsboro and there was one phone in town, at the Hotel Allen. In 1896 a franchise was granted to the New York and Pennsylvania Telephone Company, the Bell System, and this company bought out the Wellsboro line. In the next few years several rural lines were organized along the roads out of town, later combining to form the Citizens Telephone Company which continued to 1952. In 1896 a franchise was granted to a concern to put in an electric light system but was not used. In 1897 this franchise was transferred to the Mansfield Electric Light Company and many homes and the State Normal School installed electric lights. The Borough itself did not sign a contract for street lighting until 1902. The lights were turned on December 24th.

Eighth Street was legally opened but there was some confusion in the names of what are now seventh and eighth streets and what would be fifth and sixth streets. The old names, Lincoln Avenue and Elm Street as given on the old Putnam Map, were often used.

The installation of a sewer system was perhaps the worst problem the Borough Council had to consider, both because of the expense, and because of the lack of natural drainage in the southern part of the town. The Council finally decided to spread the expense over several years and to put in the sewers on Elmira, Sherwood and North Academy Streets first. An overflow sewer was put in from the junction of Elmira Street and North Main Street, to Corey Creek in 1897. In 1898 a trunk sewer was built from the river through Smythe Park across Main Street to St. James Street with secondary sewers on St. James, First, Second, and East Main Streets. In 1899 a sewer was laid up South Main Street to Fourth Street. In 1902 a storm sewer was laid under Main Street north of the Park

entrance. Bonds in the amount of \$5,000.00 were issued in 1899 and considerable sums were borrowed from time to time to cover this and other expenses.

Until the installation of electric street lights the oil lamps were cared for by a man who was also janitor of the Borough Building. He received \$35.00 a month and feed for his horse. His horse and wagon carrying oil, ladder and cleaning apparatus was a familiar sight in the village.

The night watchman was paid about the same and one-half the amount was paid by the merchants. The Borough purchased a clock for \$37.50 which he had to carry and by which he could be checked.

The water system made a much better system of fire protection possible. The Council purchased a hose cart and 1200 feet of hose at once and from time to time bought nozzles and other supplies for the hose companies. A fire alarm bell (still there) was placed over the Borough Building, costing \$500.00. After the telephone lines were installed connection was made so that the bell could be rung from the central office. A tower for drying hose was built at a cost of \$102.00 and is still in use. One hose company, the Neptune, disbanded, but the other two maintained their organizations and joined in electing a Chief to have complete control in case of fire. There was much competition between the two companies as to which one would have the first hose laid. Frequent meets were held with other towns in Tioga and Bradford Counties in which the Mansfield companies made an excellent showing. Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 continued to hold annual parties in the Opera House, considered the outstanding social event of the year.

The floods of December 18, 1901 did considerable damage, especially along Corey Creek. The bridge erected on Academy Street in 1894 was washed out and a new one built in 1902. The Erie Railroad was requested to enlarge its bridge over the creek to prevent damage by backwater. The bridge over Ellen Run on the Hollow Road was also washed out and had to be replaced and the road repaired.

The Council continued to have much trouble making citizens keep their walks in repair. They were more careful than ever



about this after paying \$200.00 to a woman who was injured on an icy walk. In 1893 Bentley and Curtis laid the first cement walk in the Borough around the Ross property, corner Academy and Normal Avenue.

In accordance with a new State law a Board of Health was set up. The Borough was divided into five sections and a member appointed by the Burgess, ratified by the Council, for each section. Dr. Wentworth Vedder was very active on this board for several years.

The Mansfield Fair continued to be very successful and the buildings and grounds were greatly improved. In 1900 the track was enlarged to a full half mile and the ball grounds were moved to its present location and in 1902 new grandstands built (the ball grounds were originally on the west side of the park with the home plate at the south end). The present gateway was built in 1893. In only one year of the ten was the weather bad. Thursday was the big day and the attendance reached over 20,000 persons. Excursion trains were still run from all sections of the county and from Corning and Elmira.

It was in this decade that the triangle where Sullivan Street intersects Academy Street was improved and a Cannon with large cannon balls at its side was mounted on a concrete foundation. This was a fixture until the old cannon was used for scrap metal in World War II and the present cannon replaced it. The Borough Liberty Pole was maintained on the square; in 1899 a new flag was bought at a cost of \$30.00 and in 1901 the pole was moved to the triangle.

In 1899 Dr. Albro resigned as Principal of the State Normal and Dr. Andrew Thomas Smith was elected to the position by the Board of Trustees. In 1895, on Arbor Day, a considerable number of trees were planted on the hill back of the school. In 1900 an addition furnishing toilet facilities for the boys was built at the back of South Hall. In 1894 the central portion of North Hall was rebuilt and an elevator installed.

If the previous decade was notable for roller skating, this one was for bicycling. The traffic problem on the sidewalks was so bad that ordinances were passed requiring licenses to ride on the sidewalks and

forbidding riding on the walks after the electric lights were on. Some of the most prominent citizens were arrested for violating this ordinance. Since the only lights were in the houses, a standard excuse was that the rider did not know they had been turned on. There were bicycle clubs making long trips, as to Buffalo or New York City. A state law was passed making it possible for counties to build bicycle paths alongside the roads. There was one along the river between Lambs Creek and Mill Creek to avoid the hill. As mentioned under "Businesses", there was for many years a bicycle repair shop in town.

In the same way the livery business was very important in this period. There were two livery stables in town, one back of the Adams Block and one which was where the rear of Johnson's Truck Lines and the Atlantic and Pacific Store are. A part of this stable now forms a part of these buildings. There was a stage line to Troy and two to Wellsboro, following different routes. Hitching sheds were maintained for the farmers on Center Street and on Sassafras Alley. The livery business was at an end soon after Ed Ross brought the first automobile to town and the stages were discontinued after the establishment of R.F.D. routes as there was no contract to be had for carrying mails to small rural postoffices.

During this period many homes were built. Also the Presbyterian Church was enlarged by an addition at the rear. Bert Vedder started to build a large factory on W. Elmira Street for canning pickles, but laws were passed, at the instance of the Heinz concern, which put him out of business and hurt many producers of cucumbers in this section.

High School Principals in this period were: G. B. Strait, 1893; Hugh Sherwood, 1895; J. C. Doane, 1899; A. S. Lent, 1900; E. A. Retan, 1901.

Lawyers were: Frank Clark, Leon Channel came in 1895; Costley left in 1894.

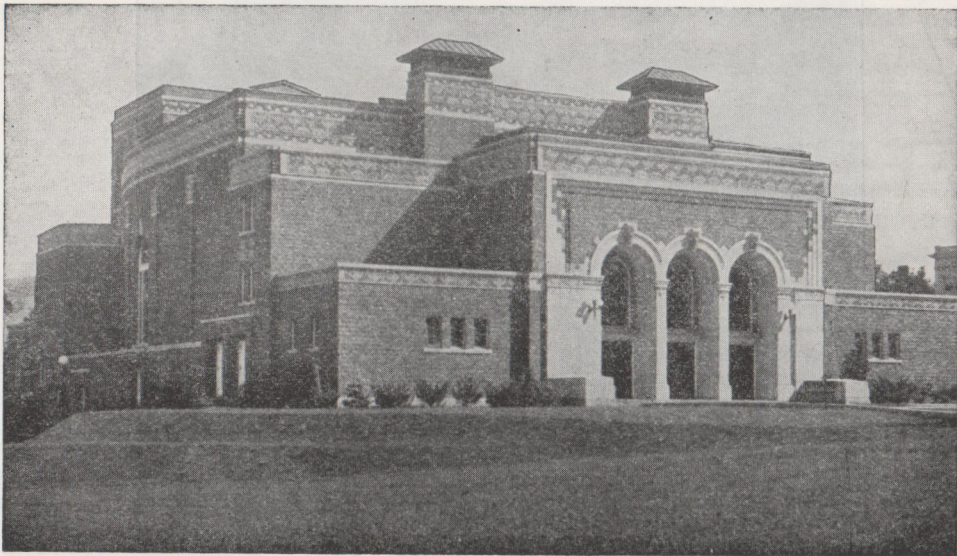
Doctors were: C. V. Elliott (retired), Moody, F. G. Elliott, F. G. Wood after 1895 and Edith Flower (Wheeler) after 1899.

Dentists: J. E. Williamson after 1899; H. W. Bailey in 1900; O. Newell.





OPERA HOUSE AND BOROUGH BUILDING BUILT IN 1888; NOTE WATERING  
TROUGH GIVEN BY MR. BUTTS



STRAUGHN HALL, 1929





OAKWOOD DAM, CANOE CAMP



CHURCH OF CHRIST (DISCIPLES) CANOE CAMP



## V. 1903 to 1912



NE of the most important measures passed by the Council in this decade was that of Dec. 24, 1906, in which it was agreed that the Borough would pay 25% of the cost of laying cement sidewalks on private lots if the walks were built according to the specifications set forth in the ordinance. Provision was made for inspection. As a result of this far-sighted ordinance, sidewalk building went on very rapidly for several years, especially in 1910 when many crosswalks were also laid by the Borough. Curbs were built on N. Main to Sherwood and gutters on S. Main from the square to near Normal Avenue. The staples in the curbing for hitching horses were ordered removed in 1903.

In 1909 an ordinance was passed legalizing the names of the streets of the Borough. The only changes, or new streets from those previously opened were: Novelty Place, Main Street to the electric plant; Decker Street, N. Main to the foot of Pickle Hill; Coles Street, formerly N. Sullivan Street; Corey Street, N. Main to the condensary; Clinton Street to be opened to Fourth Street, and numbers four to eight given to streets that had been called by various names over the years, such as Elm, Lincoln Avenue, J. S. Hoard was authorized to number the houses and lots on the streets and these numbers were to be official. Leach Alley, from W. Wellsboro, back of the Shepard Store, 90 feet north, and then west to Sassafras Alley was laid out.

Beginning in 1908 the movement to take care of the cemetery on N. Main Street, called Hope Cemetery at this time, was under way. This cemetery consisted of three parts: the old part owned by the Township originally, Hope Cemetery proper, and the Sherwood addition. The Council agreed to give the Association any land owned by the Borough, the old Township portion, and this was done in 1909 after Prospect Cemetery Association had been formed. In 1903 the Council had paid for laying water pipes into the Cemetery, the water being donated by the Water Company. The Council also paid for cleaning up the old Township section.

There was the usual concern with the sewers and with washing by Corey Creek. In 1903 an overflow sewer was run under

the railroad into the Park, after an agreement was made with the Park Association to protect them, and this proved successful for some time. The sewer on Extension Street caused trouble due to the old tannery race. The River Road was protected by wharfing in 1904 and wing dams were built on Corey Creek at Extension Street and Academy Street. In 1911 the bridge over Corey Creek at Extension Street was made a County Bridge. Fourth Street was surveyed for a sewer in 1907. In 1908 the Elmira Street sewer was extended 200 feet beyond Extension Street. In 1913 the residents on Elmira, Academy, St. James and Main Streets were ordered to do away with outhouses and connect with the sewer system, if not already connected. The water system was extended to the bridge leading to the Newtown Road and on Coles Street.

The Fire Companies previously active had become dormant. Harry B. Taylor and Ray Longbothum were active in getting help from the Council in restoring interest. 500 feet of hose was bought in 1904; the company was reorganized in 1906 and has been active ever since. Their New Year's parties, stag, during this period, were very popular. On Dec. 23, 1908 the Old Hook and Ladder Company had a reunion.

In 1908 D. J. Butts donated a water fountain for watering horses, placed first at N. W. corner of the square but afterwards moved to E. Wellsboro Street opposite the Presbyterian Church.

The Methodist Church in 1908, gave the triangle at Sullivan and Academy Streets to the Borough, and in 1924 the Borough deeded it to the Normal School.

In 1909 an anti-spitting ordinance was passed but the Council bought six cuspidors for the Council room. In 1908 a dog muzzling ordinance was passed. In 1911 and in 1912 Municipal House Cleaning Days were observed. The ordinance requiring bonds for bicycle riders was still enforced. In 1905 the G.A.R. was granted \$21.00 to employ "an eloquent and distinguished speaker for Memorial Day." In 1908 the Borough Building was considerably repaired with steel ceiling and new decorations.

The extensions of the R.F.D. in 1903 and 1904 caused the abandonment of the stages



which had run to Wellsboro and Troy.

The Citizens Telephone Company was greatly extended, and completed a long distance connection with the Bell System.

Beginning in 1907 R. W. Allen had a business school in the Shepard Block for a number of years.

About 1908 Mansfield residents started a "Summer Colony" at Oakwood. This was on the west side of the river at Canoe Camp along the old mill race, and the dam for the race had provided a good swimming hole. An ice house built here was one of the main sources of ice for Mansfield for many years. Some of the old cottages are still used.

A new street sprinkler was bought in 1909.

In 1909 stock was being sold for a company to build a trolley line to Wellsboro.

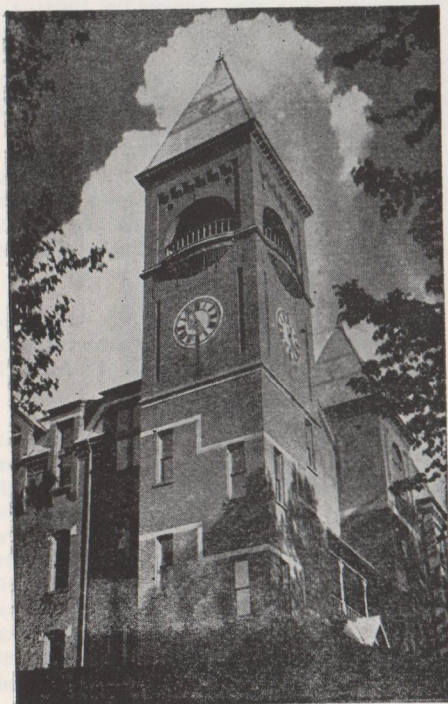
This was agitated for a few years, but the advent of the automobile at a reasonable price made it impractical.

The Fair Association bought more land north of the former grounds in 1910 and in 1911 built a 100-foot addition to the grandstand. During this decade the Fair was very successful, with the attendance frequently running to 20,000 or more on Thursday.

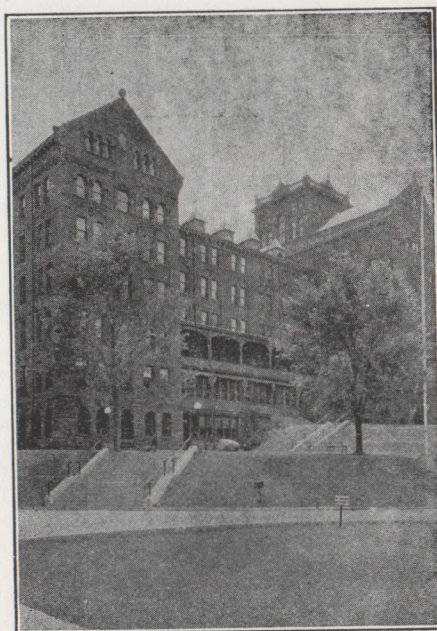
The Physicians during this period were: Dr. C. V. Elliott to 1904; F. G. Wood, F. G. Elliott, B. Moody, W. D. Vedder and Dr. Edith Flower.

The Dentists were: Harry Bailey to 1903; Oramel Newell to 1909; A. W. Edstrom, S. E. Williamson.

Dr. Whiting was the Veterinary Surgeon. Lawyers: Harvey Leach, Frank Clark.



CLOCK TOWER  
ALUMNI HALL, 1885



NORTH HALL



## VI. 1913 to 1929



HIS period of almost seventeen years is one for which there were available no sources of information except the minutes of the Council and some scattered papers. For some years only one paper was found. This is most unfortunate for it includes the years of World War I. During that time we know that the citizens were engaged in many patriotic activities. Organizations of "Minute Men" went out selling war bonds. The record on the wall at Strait's Hardware shows the contribution made by the community in terms of man power. Many of our present citizens spent considerable time in the trenches in France. The Austin-Cox Post of the American Legion, in its name, bears tribute to two who paid the supreme sacrifice.

Much of the history of the period has to do with the changes brought about by the coming of the automobile. Two of these, the paving of streets and the building of garages are so prominent that they have been treated separately in order to carry the story right down to the present.

In 1920 the President's Mansion at the College was built, in 1925-26 the new Presbyterian Church was built, and in 1917 the Holy Child Church was erected.

In 1919 the Council purchased a chemical engine for \$500.00 and a second hand scraper for work on unimproved streets. In 1926 a grader was bought. The tax rate during part of this period was 10 mills for general purposes and four mills for sinking funds, but was increased to fourteen mills and four mills to meet the increased cost of the paving. Ransom Bryant was night watch for most of the time at a salary of \$20.00 per month. Ordinances were passed for a curfew in 1919; against dumping rubbish on the streets and driving on the sidewalks in 1924, and prohibiting fireworks in 1928.

In 1924 the Girl Scouts organized their first troop in Mansfield. In 1925 the American Legion installed the Boulevard Lights at the square. In 1928 the markers and

plates at the Borough limits on No. 6 and 15 were erected by the combined Womens' Clubs. In 1927 it was agreed with the Alumni of the old Soldiers' Orphans School that they might erect a marker in memory of Fordyce A. Allen at the N. W. corner on the square.

In the fall of 1926 a Community Bazaar to raise money with which to buy a fire engine was held. This was truly a community effort extending over most of a week, centering in the Grange Hall, and was very successful. In connection with the fire siren which had been purchased by the Council in 1922 and which was blown at noon from Palmer's Jewelry Store, as well as for fires, much better fire protection was provided for the community.

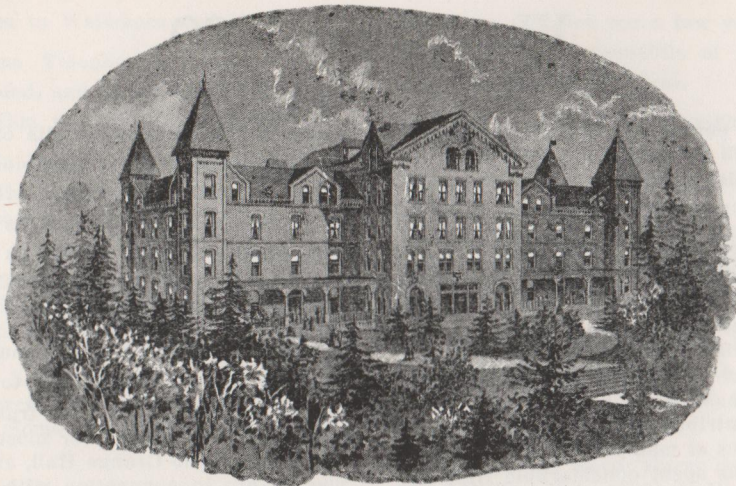
Two other community efforts are worthy of notice. At this time, of course, there were not available State Welfare Services, nor County Nurses, and other services now provided for the County. In 1926 there was organized the Mansfield Welfare Association and in 1924 the Community Nurse Association. Both were supported at this time by annual drives made throughout the community. The Welfare Association has continued to this time though there is less demand for its services now than in the past. The Community Nurse at first gave half her time to the schools and half to any needy cases in the town. Her work was partly supported by the School Board, and later partly by the College also. In 1950 she became a school nurse giving all her time to the children in the schools and paid by the college and the school board.

The Physicians during this period were: H. C. Harkness, L. J. Neal, F. G. Wood to 1916; J. H. Doane from about 1918; F. G. Elliott.

The Dentists were A. W. Edstrom to 1927; Robert DeWaters from 1927; J. E. Williamson and Adolph Schlappi.

The Lawyers were: Frank W. Clark, Harvey Leach, and for a few years, Donald Rockwell.





SOUTH HALL, 1895



MUNICIPAL WATER AUTHORITY

Standing, L-R: Raymond Van Noy, King G. Rose, Charles H. Curtis, Supt.;  
Seated: Gerald C. Schanbacher, Oscar M. Lutes, Howard S. Davis.



## VII. 1930 to 1940



HIS decade, although it was the period of the "Great Depression," was one in which great changes and many improvements took place in Mansfield. By 1930 a franchise had been granted by the Council and Natural Gas was brought into town. Straughn Hall, at the College, was completed. Due to efforts from 1930-34 an appropriation of \$45,000.00 was secured for an Armory Building and it was built in 1936. The new Shop Building at the College was constructed. In 1934 a new Vocational Building was built at the High School and in 1938-39 the new Senior High School was built. A. H. Vosburg was of great help in securing money and watching the development of this project. A bond issue of \$42,500.00 was voted in 1937 for this purpose. In 1938 the contract was let for three new buildings at the College; Gymnasium, Elementary School, Arts Building.

Mansfield shared more than most communities in the development of through bus lines, connecting the community more directly with the outside world than was the case in the days of the railroad passenger service. In 1929 the "Great Eastern Stages" later the "Greyhound", a New York to Chicago line, started. There was also a line from Blossburg to Elmira and Corning, which later ran from Williamsport and now from Washington to Rochester and Buffalo. For some years the Martz lines also ran from New York west.

In connection with the Works Progress Administration and that of the so-called "Alphabetical Agencies" of the depression period, the Borough built, in 1934-35, a sewer on the north side of Corey Creek from Extension Street to the river with spurs on N. Academy and Main Streets. Altogether 4,900 feet were laid for which the Borough appropriated only \$600.00. Also, in the same way, a great deal of work on the streets was done.

In 1937 a movement begun by the women's clubs culminated in the formation of a Community Chest to concentrate the giving of the citizens into one "drive" instead

of the five which had been going on each year. All the organizations interested co-operated and a board was set up consisting of representatives of the business men, the schools, the welfare organizations, and the college faculty.

In 1936 the Business Men's Association sponsored a Halloween party for the children of the community. This was very successful and has become an annual affair.

In 1939 skunks came to be such a nuisance in the Borough that the Council hired a man to trap them. His work was so successful that there has been no complaint since.

In 1929 the name "College" was substituted for "Normal" in names of streets. In 1933 the short street between highway six in its new location, and Brooklyn Street, was named Ross Street; Meadow Street was extended to Corey Creek as had been originally intended. The Borough acquired a flushing truck and equipment and a new truck for street work. Ordinances were again passed to require sewer connections and to eliminate outside toilets (1931); to regulate excavations in paved streets; requiring proper pasteurization of all milk sold in the Borough (1932), regulating building by granting permits (1937).

Since the Borough was \$6,500.00 in debt in 1930, the bonds authorized in 1924 and never issued, were sold.

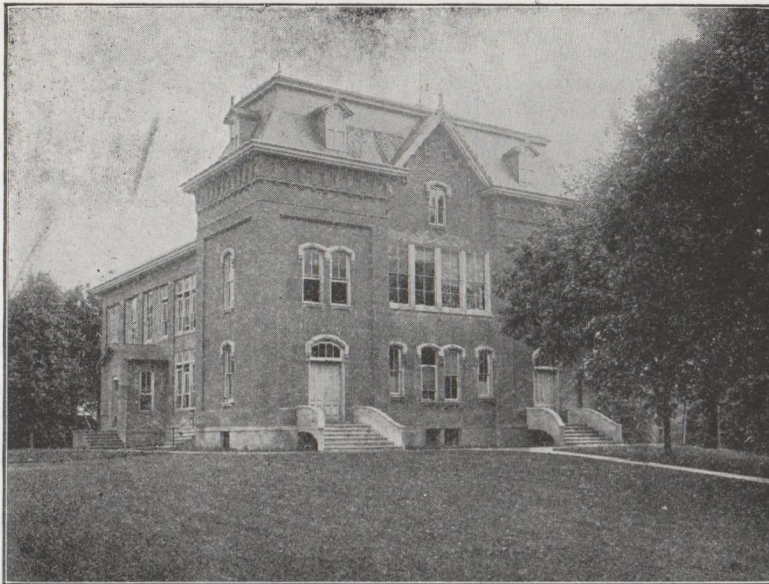
In 1936 the Rural Electrification Agency started a Mansfield office and to extend electric lines from the town out into the rural areas.

The Doctors in the period were: Hughes Meaker, John Doane, L. J. Neal, I. R. Vincent, D. W. Crittenden from 1937; J. J. Moore from 1939.

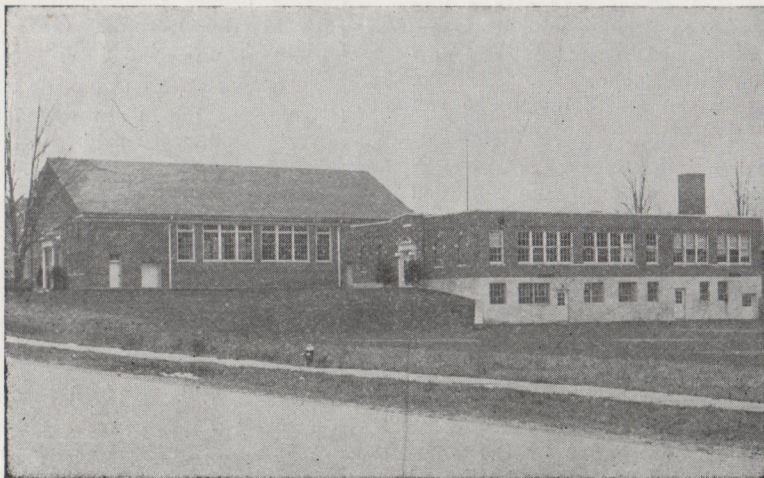
The Dentists were: Adolph Schlappi, Robert DeWaters to 1932; J. E. Williamson, Joseph Jaquish, 1932-34; J. J. McMillan, 1934 on.

Veterinarian: R. J. Lynch.





OLD HIGH SCHOOL, BUILT 1880



MANSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL, 1939



## VIII. 1941 to 1957



THE history of the last sixteen years is familiar to most of us. However, the historian of the future, and the generation now classed as "children" will some day want to know what took place in this period.

First in importance was World War II. Mansfield not only contributed more than its share of manpower, but contributed more than its quota in every War Bond Sale, Red Cross, or U.S.O. drive. During the years 1942-46 a Service Center was kept open in the southern half of the Park Block. It was supported and staffed by the citizens. Service men caught between buses, or hitch hiking, could find a bed, or refreshments. The Red Cross Rooms were active with women sewing for hospitals. The local Ambulance Company was one of the early units over-seas. At one time it was located near Mansfield, England and the children of the Mansfield, Pa., schools sent seven large cartons of toys and gifts to the children of Mansfield, England. After the war Mansfield, England, sent a gift of music books to our school.

The Memorial Swimming Pool is a symbol of the gratitude of the community for the sacrifice of its youth. Built in 1949 at a cost of \$40,000 in money, work furnished and materials donated, it will long remain a monument to the veterans of the two World Wars. Its history is fully set forth in a publication, "Mansfield Memorial Swimming Pool."

During this period the Council carried out many improvements in the Borough. One of the most useful is the new Borough Building just west of the river on Wellsboro Street. Built in 1951, it provides a modern office for the meetings of the Council, as well as a garage and workshop for the Borough Trucks and the men employed. The Council purchased a dump truck in 1950, a tractor and loader in 1948, and new fire pumps in 1946 and 1956. With the loader and truck it is possible for the streets to be speedily cleaned after a heavy snowfall.

All the streets not under the control of the State Highway Department have been resurfaced in this period. In 1946 the state repaved N. Main Street from Prospect Street to the Borough limits. In 1945 Wells-

boro and Sullivan Streets were resurfaced. Many new sewers were laid; a four-foot sewer from E. Main under the railroad in 1943; in connection with the State, a sewer from College Place to Corey Creek in 1952; a sewer from Prospect Street to the Borough limits in 1953; one on Fourth Street, in 1952. In 1946, in response to demand of the State, engineers were employed to draw up plans for a sewage disposal plant. Two new bridges were built over Ellen Run, one at Brooklyn Street in 1951 and one on the Hollow Road in 1955.

In 1942 the Council set up a Municipal Authority through which the Council could authorize the purchase of the Water System, and in 1943 the purchase was consummated. By this act the Council has made it possible to utilize the profits from the system for improvements. Much has been done to this end; reforestation of the watershed, introduction of Fluoridation, improvement of the dams, and replacing worn out mains. Herbert Peterson and Oscar Lutes were leaders in this movement.

In 1944-45 the Frozen Food Lockers were built at 38 S. Main Street. At the College a new Science Building was erected 1951-52; in 1951 the old South Hall, oldest of the original buildings dating from 1857-58, was torn down and a modern dormitory erected in 1952; the kitchen was completely remodeled and new storage and refrigerator facilities added; and in 1955 a new Fire Tower was erected at the rear of North Hall. In 1955-56, Webb Rice tore down the old filling station at 50 S. Main Street, and the two old wooden buildings at 15 and 17 N. Main Street and erected a new Post Office building at the first site and two modern stores at the second.

For a few years, beginning in 1945, the airplane fever hit Mansfield. In September, 1945, a field was opened south of town which was, in 1948, moved to a hill top on the old ore bed road. In 1946 there were seven planes owned locally and air plane breakfasts were the style, staged at various fields in other localities. Garrison and Myers were dealers in planes, and flying lessons were given at the field. In 1949 the field was again moved to its former location on the flat south of Canoe Camp but by 1950 there was little local flying. The increased expense of operating the field led



to its abandonment.

New industries were brought to town through the activities of the Business Men's Association which bought a tract of land (part of the old Putnam lands) in the south-east corner of the Borough. Here the Armco Corporation erected a large fabrication unit in 1952-53. In 1954 the Association erected a building for the Houghtaling and Oldman, Inc. Foundry which had been operating in a small building on the park. On 7th Street there was built a large skating rink which has been very popular. South of 7th Street, the G.L.F. Cooperative greatly enlarged the 1946 plant in 1949.

In 1946 those lot owners who were interested in the old Oakwood Cemetery revived the organization and sold the cemetery to the Prospect Cemetery Association. This association, out of civic pride, took over the property and proceeded immediately to improve it and to provide an attractive site for future lot purchases.

In 1946 a new franchise was granted the Tioga County Bell Telephone Company and in 1948 the company built a modern "Central" at 56 S. Main Street. By 1952 the Bell System had absorbed the local lines of the old Citizens Telephone Company. In 1954 the Tioga County unit sold out to the Commonwealth Telephone Company of Dallas, Pa.

In 1952 the Baptist congregation made a considerable addition to the Sherwood Street side of the church.

In 1950-51 new street signs were erected

at all street corners. In 1952 scales were installed at the Borough Building. When trucks were suspected to be overweight, they could be checked here by the Borough Police. Parking meters also were installed in 1950. Through the revenue received from these two sources it became possible to hire police for twenty-four-hour duty and to increase greatly the protection to school children going to and from school.

The tax rate on borough real estate was increased to 24 mills in 1942, and cut to 23 mills 1943-1947. After a special election in 1947 it was increased to 26 mills to give increased fire protection but was cut to 25 mills in 1948, 24 in 1950, 22 in 1951. Following the State revision of assessments it was cut to nine mills in 1955 but raised to 12 mills in 1956.

In 1953 the Tyco Television Company put up a tower, were granted a franchise, and brought a cable to town, making it possible for residents to install television sets in their homes.

In 1948, C. Morris Thompson constructed an attractive Dairy Bar at 103 W. Wellsboro Street, with a modern pasteurizing and ice cream plant attached.

Doctors: J. J. Moore, Robert Sanford, 1949; Charles B. Flack, 1950; I. R. Vincent to 1948.

Dentists: J. J. McMillan, E. A. Evans, 1946.

Veterinarians: R. J. Lynch, E. E. Barber.

Attorney: Robert E. Farr.



SOUTH MAIN STREET, 1900





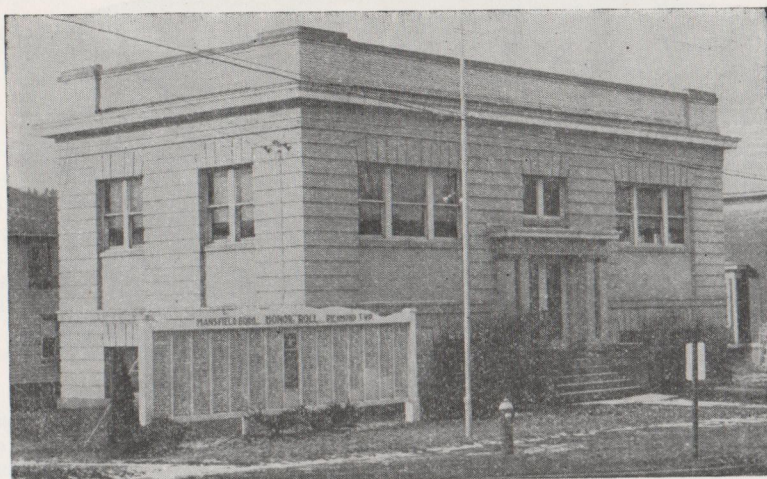
SOLDIERS' ORPHAN SCHOOL about 1880



MANSFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL, 1957

Back Row: L-R Att'y Robert E. Farr, Councilmen David C. Evans, Wayne R. Cleveland, Jay B. Foreman, Eurgess Joseph H. Garside, Chester P. Bailey, Secretary; Councilman William C. Bradshaw.  
Front Row: L-R John F. Myers, Treasurer; Councilmen, Dana D. Decker, Ronald D. Sick, President; Howard L. Goodall.





MANSFIELD FREE LIBRARY and HONOR ROLL, WORLD WAR II



FIRST NATIONAL BANK BUILDING, 1953



## IX. The Government

### Burgesses

Henry Allen .....	1857, 1866
J. A. Holden .....	1858
S. B. Elliott .....	1859
Mart King .....	1860, 1861, 1864, 1874, 1875
A. J. Ross .....	1862
Philip Williams .....	1863
W. D. Long .....	1865
J. T. Strait .....	1867
W. B. Middaugh .....	1868, 1870, 1871
William Hollands .....	1869, 1878
J. W. Adams .....	1871
J. S. Murdaugh .....	1873, 1874
D. H. Pitts .....	1876, 1879, 1885
C. H. Verrill .....	1877
Enoch Blackwell .....	1880
C. V. Elliott .....	1881
T. H. Bailey, 1882, 1883, 1886, through 1889, 1900-03	
H. E. Metcalf .....	1884, 1890, 1891
C. S. Kingsley .....	1892
W. D. Husted .....	1893
Dr. J. M. Barden .....	1894
F. E. Van Keuran .....	1895, 1896

### Three Year Terms

S. J. Shepard .....	1897
R. W. Rose .....	1903
E. H. Ross .....	1906

### Four Year Terms

F. A. Clark .....	1909
A. H. Vosburg .....	Feb. 1913 to Dec. 1918
L. B. Shaw .....	1918
Edwin Coles .....	1922 to Jan. 1936
Everett McMurtry .....	1936 to Oct. 1940
Mott Brooks .....	Nov. 1940 to June 1943
E. C. Russell .....	July 1943 to 1954
Joseph Garside .....	1954

### Councilmen

Porter Gaylord .....	1857, 58, 69, 70
L. H. Elliott .....	1857
M. Kelley .....	1857, 58, 68
J. M. Cassels .....	1857
H. Davis .....	1857, 58, 63
Wm. Adams .....	1858, 66
B. C. Mann .....	1858, 65, 68, 74, 75, 81
D. H. Spur .....	1859
William Hollands .....	1859, 60, 61, 62, 64, 72
A. B. Campbell .....	1859, 60
L. H. Brewster .....	1859
W. D. Kelley .....	1860
A. Young .....	1860, 61
H. G. Martin .....	1860

John Slingerland .....	1861
H. H. Lawrence .....	1861, 64, 65
W. H. Allen .....	1861
Henry Allen .....	1862, 64
J. M. Phelps .....	1862, 69, 70, 72, 73
Phil Williams .....	1862, 74, 75
R. P. Buttles .....	1862, 67
L. A. Ridgway .....	1863, 76
A. Hunt .....	1863, 64, 72, 73
L. D. Grover .....	1863, 65
C. J. Kelley .....	1863
A. J. Ross .....	1864, 67, 72, 73
G. W. Kiff .....	1865, 66, 69
J. L. Kelley .....	1865
Abram Shuart .....	1866, 71
Alvin Gaylord .....	1866
J. D. Smith .....	1866
C. V. Elliott .....	1867, 76, 83
J. S. Murdaugh .....	1867
J. M. Bailey .....	1867, 78
P. V. Clark .....	1868, 76
A. J. Webster .....	1868
Enoch Blackwell .....	1868
L. Reynolds .....	1869
F. L. Allen .....	1869, 74, 75
J. W. Adams .....	1870, 71
C. J. Munn .....	1870
John A. Holden .....	1870
L. B. Eagle .....	1871
O. Newell .....	1871, 89 to 1905
Homer Kingsley .....	1871, 87, 88, 89
Mart King .....	1872, 73, 79
A. M. Pitts .....	1872, 73, 78
C. W. Brown .....	1873
D. H. Pitts .....	1874, 75
C. S. Kingsley .....	1874, 75, 81-85, 87-89
L. R. Decker .....	1874
Solomon Sweet .....	1875
F. M. Shaw .....	1876, 77
W. W. Bentley .....	1876, 77, 81, 86, 87, 88
M. A. Cass .....	1876
Freeman Gaylord .....	1877, 79, 80
Hiram Hodges .....	1877
D. D. Mann .....	1877, 78, 79
T. H. Bailey .....	1877, 79, 80, 81
J. F. Howe, 1878 to 1880, 1893 to 1895, 1906-09	
V. R. Pratt .....	1878
G. W. Davis .....	1878, 80
Dyer Butts .....	1879, 81-83, 85-87
U. S. Snover .....	1880
H. C. Bailey .....	1880
D. A. Gaylord .....	1881-83
C. L. Strait .....	1882
T. F. Rolison .....	1882, 83
J. A. Elliott .....	1882, 83
B. C. Mann .....	1884, 85, 86



Edward Doane.....	1884, 85, 86
Emory Goodrich .....	1884, 85, 86
T. M. Shaw .....	1884

#### Three Year Terms From Here

A. H. Avery .....	1884
T. Williams .....	1885
G. W. Davis .....	1886
J. M. Barden .....	1888
Frank Kohler .....	1888
Ira Wright .....	1889
J. E. Reese .....	1890, 93
C. H. Horton .....	1890
Joseph Schusler .....	1891
O. T. Haight .....	1891
B. V. Strait .....	1892
C. H. Randall .....	1892
H. E. Metcalf .....	1894
O. V. Smith .....	1894
T. W. Judge .....	1895, 07
G. L. Strait .....	1895
W. W. Allen .....	1897
Ray Longbothum .....	1897
Ed Passmore .....	1898, 04
E. N. Bentley .....	1898, 08
A. S. Reynolds .....	1899
Ed C. Wood .....	1899, 03
J. L. Cummings .....	1899
A. R. Decker .....	1902, 07
Wm. McConnell .....	1902
G. A. Cornwell .....	1900
L. B. Shaw .....	1900, 03, 07 (1 yr.)
J. M. Clark .....	1901, 05
Delos H. Walker .....	1901
Reuben Curtis .....	1901 (1 yr.), 05
E. H. Blackwell .....	1904
H. J. Ripley .....	1905
M. Shipbanker .....	1906, 09
Frank Gillette .....	1907
Elmer Briggs .....	1908
W. D. Ramsdell .....	1908, 14
S. B. McConnell .....	1909, 13, 20, 22, 26
J. H. Benson .....	1910
A. W. Kear .....	1910

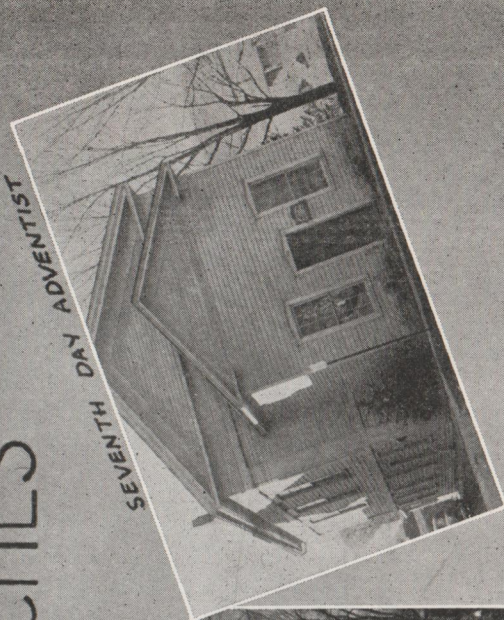
#### Four Year Term From Here

F. L. Jupenlaz .....	1911
C. B. Sherwood .....	1911, 15
H. B. Taylor .....	1911, 15
S. C. Dorsett .....	1911
C. W. Earley .....	1913
J. J. Taylor .....	1913 (1 yr.)
Willys Avery .....	1915, 1920, 1924
H. B. Kingsley .....	1915
Homer H. Hager .....	1917 (3 yrs.)
G. L. Palmer .....	1917
F. W. Simmons .....	1917
Wallace Lowe .....	1920, 1924
Leon Baynes .....	1920, 24, 28, 32
R. E. Cleveland .....	1922
R. M. Swan .....	1922
Frank Marvin .....	1924
H. G. Peterson .....	1926, 30, 34
E. C. Russell .....	1926, 30, 34, 38
E. A. Retan .....	1928 (2 yrs.)
C. M. Thompson .....	1928, 32
M. H. Shepard .....	1928, 32
J. E. Farrer .....	1928, 30, 34
A. T. Belknap .....	1930 (2 yrs.)
Wade Goodall .....	1936
O. L. Schanbacher .....	1936, 40, 44
Wm. Barden.....	1936, 40, 44, 48, resigned 1949
C. L. Johnson .....	1936, 40
Fred Hakes .....	1938, 42, 46, 50, 54 to 56
Elmer Kennedy,	
1938, 42, 46, 50, resigned	1952
W. E. French .....	1940, 44
Dana Decker .....	1942, 46, 50, 54
Charles Hawley .....	1944
Raymond Austin .....	1948
King Rose .....	1948
David Evans .....	1948, 52, 56
John M. Barden .....	1950 to 52
H. L. Goodall .....	1952, 54
Emerson Evans .....	1952
J. J. Moore .....	1952
Ronald Sick .....	1952, 56
William Bradshaw .....	1956
William Taylor .....	1956, resigned June 1st
Wayne Cleveland .....	1956
J. B. Foreman .....	1956





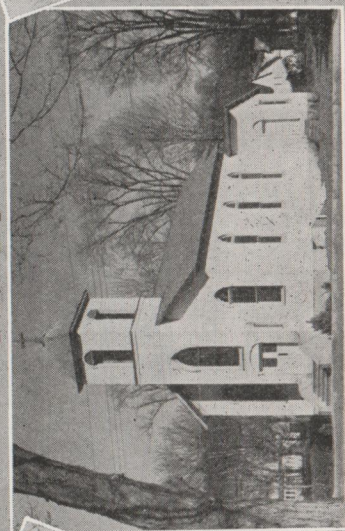
BAPTIST



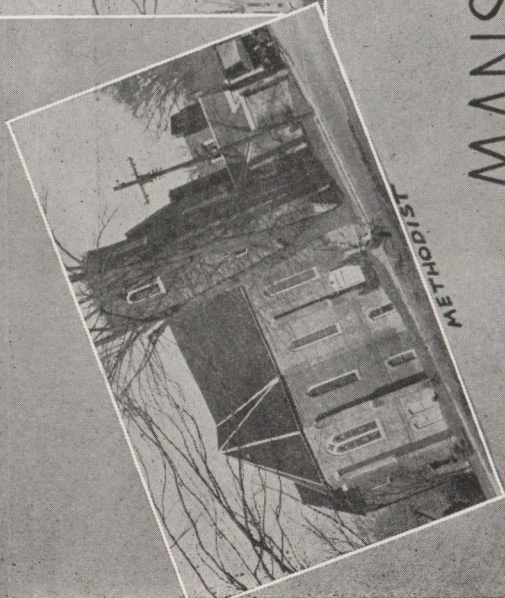
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST



EPISCOPAL



CATHOLIC



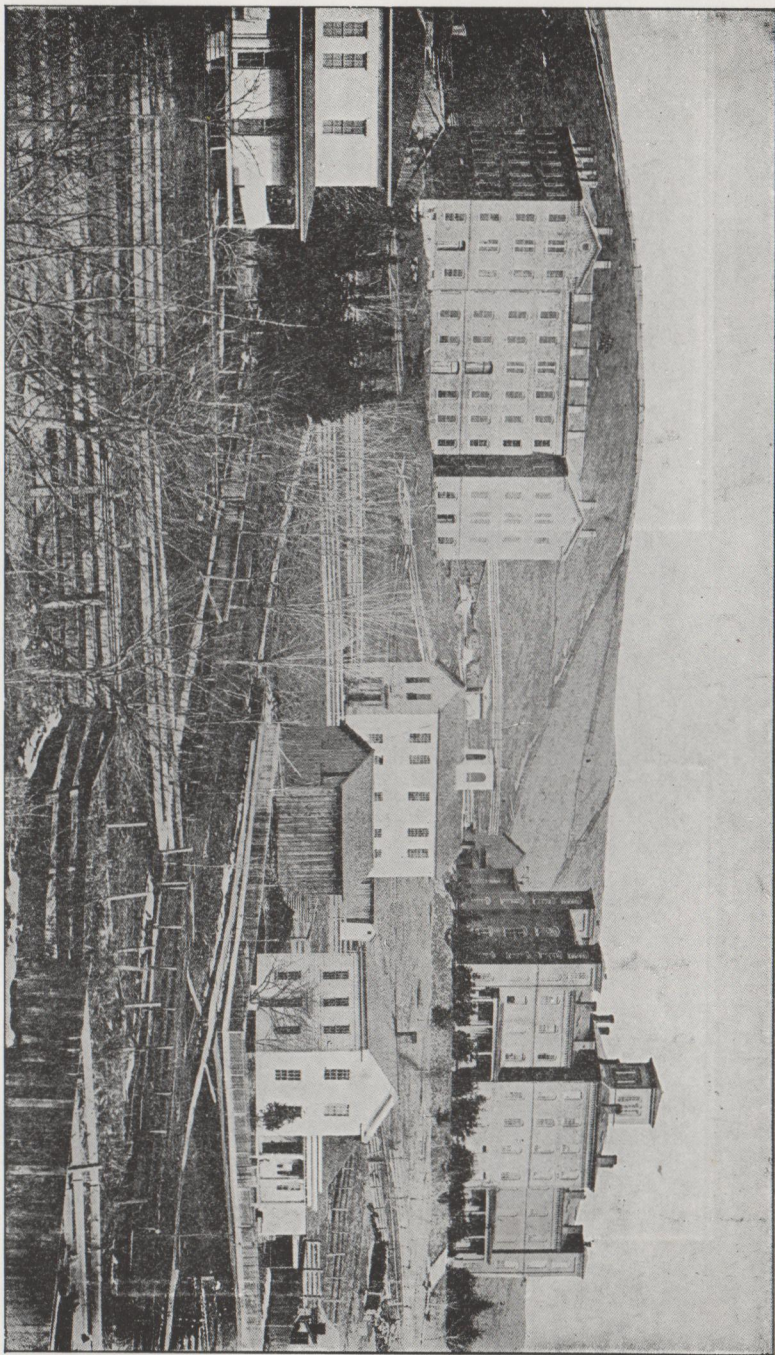
METHODIST

# MANSFIELD CHURCHES



PRESBYTERIAN





MANSFIELD NORMAL, BOROUGH SCHOOL AT CENTER OF PICTURE IN THE 1880'S



## X. Old Homes



HIS list is very incomplete. It has been limited by the failure of the Advertiser to give any mention of the homes being built during the seventies other than to say that twenty-four homes were built in 1877. The assessment list of the Borough was of some help, but too many homes were simply given as "very old." It is also true, of course, that the oldest homes have often been added to, or remodeled, so that they do not appear to be old. It is hoped that the list is reasonably accurate:

### Probably Built Before 1850

#### North Main Street:—

No. 18—The original A. J. Ross house. It was sold to Dr. Fred Elliott in 1892, and in 1937 became the Shaw Funeral Home.

Nos. 72, 80, 84 and 98 appear on the 1857 map of M. L. Clark.

No. 107 was built in 1850 or earlier and was the hotel of Oliver W. Phelps until 1863.

No. 241—The Henry Allen house.

No. 304—Built in 1838 or 39 by Capt. Ezra Davis. This house was a station on the Underground Railroad; run-a-way slaves were kept in the attic by John C. Howe, who owned the home for many years.

No. 473—Built in 1835.

#### South Main Street:—

No. 18—Built shortly after 1829. This was the Brundage Hotel for many years.

No. 146—This is the oldest house still in use. It was built in 1824 by Daniel Holden.

No. 376—The old Butts House.

No. 272—The first brick house, built in 1841 by Ben Gitchell.

Prospect Street, No. 45.

Extension Street, No. 56.

East Wellsboro Street, No. 46.

Sherwood Street, Nos. 27 and 28.

St. James Street, No. 317.

Sullivan Street, No. 49-51, the old Baptist Church moved to this location.

South Academy Street, Nos. 20-24, the old Mansfield School House to 1880.

North Academy Street, No. 21, the Clark House on 1857 map.

East Elmira Street, No. 21, the Lawrence House, No. 38, No. 53, the Lamb House, No. 67, the Slingerland House.

### Probably Built in the Fifties

East Main Street, No. 161; College Avenue, No. 24; First Street, No. 80; Sherwood Street, Nos. 27 and 105; East Elmira Street, No. 26.

St. James Street, Nos. 181, 214, 260.

East Wellsboro Street, No. 51, the Cummings House; No. 61, the Captain Pitts House.

North Academy Street, No. 45, possibly built by S. B. Elliott; No. 54.

### Probably Built in the Sixties

St. James Street, No. 54 and 125.

Sherwood Street, No. 19, the Dorsett House; No. 22, built in 1863; No. 81, the John Kohn House; No. 55, the Kingsley House; No. 84, the Dr. Cole House.

First Street, No. 37; Brooklyn Street, No. 195.

Prospect Street, No. 49, built by Rev. N. L. Reynolds, a Baptist minister, and for many years the home of Dr. C. V. Elliott.

Morris Avenue, No. 40, reputed to have been a plank school house originally on West Wellsboro Street and may be much older.

### Probably Built in the Seventies

North Main Street, No. 36, the Murdaugh House; No. 176, R. R. Kingsley; No. 181, Clark Sherwood; No. 375.

South Main Street, No. 82, and the two houses south by Dr. Smythe; No. 130, the Backer House; No. 170, the Dan Pitts House; No. 207.

St. James Street, No. 65, William Barton; Nos. 96, 120, 151, 184, 196.

West Elmira Street, No. 68; East Elmira Street, No. 85; Extension Street, Nos. 64 and 82.

Sullivan Street, Nos. 5 and 7.

South Academy Street, No. 91, the Williamson House; No. 241.

College Avenue, No. 48, the Verrill House; No. 71, the Allen House; No. 24, the Holden House.

Brooklyn Street, Tom Bailey built nine houses on this street probably including Nos. 2, 145, 155, and 217.

Sherwood Street, Nos. 48 and 65, the Homer Kingsley House.

First Street, No. 56; Second Street, No. 117.





**OFFICE BUILDING, MANSFIELD FAIR, 1893**



**SMYTHE PARK ENTRANCE**



## XI. Institutions and Businesses

### 1. The Public Library



IN 1901, after considerable discussion, the School Board appropriated \$200.00 toward a free public library, providing \$400.00 should be raised in the Borough for the same purpose. The conditions were met and the first books were purchased in December, partly from a second hand book store in Philadelphia by Rev. David Crockett. The Library opened in the old Henry Allen Offices, 32 North Main Street, with Miss Stella Allen (Mrs. Fred Ely) in charge on February 7, 1902. It was managed by a board of directors, part of whom represented the School Board and part the citizens. Mattie Bodine was librarian 1903-08.

In 1908 it was moved to the second floor of the Allen Block over Strait's Hardware. Miss Mary Shepard was librarian until 1923, H. J. Van Norman to 1928, and Karl Van Norman to 1956. In 1911, on April 5th, as a result of efforts by J. A. Elliott and others, the Andrew Carnegie Library Fund made a grant of \$5,000.00 for a building on condition that the Library Association raise \$700.00 for a lot, grading, etc. In a very short time nearly \$1,000.00 was raised and the Borough Council appropriated \$500.00. The corner stone was laid November first.

For many years the Library was supported by the school board, the council and gifts, but there was never enough money available to keep up the property and buy new books. In 1936 an election was held on the question of laying a one mill tax on property in the Borough for library purposes. The vote was favorable and since that time it has been possible to maintain the property in better shape, but there has never been as much money as was needed in spite of many generous gifts by individuals.

Miss Helen Wood is now the librarian.

### 2. The Borough Water System

After the bad fires of the eighties, there was much agitation concerning a water supply. The Council had surveys made; committees visited nearby communities; various watersheds were considered, and financing was discussed. It was finally decided that the Borough could not finance the in-

stallation of a water system as the estimated cost of \$45,000.00 was too great in proportion to the estimated assessment of the municipality. It was, therefore, decided to accept the offer of the Watres family of Scranton and May 8, 1893, a franchise was granted them, based on the use of the Lambs Creek drainage basin. During the nineties much fault was found with the quality of the water furnished. At times, little was available. It was claimed by some that the source was contaminated and samples sent away for analysis were pronounced impure. A suit was begun to secure better service but was settled for fifty dollars after citizens presented a petition stating they were satisfied with the water.

Again in 1908-09 there was agitation against the water company and the Council had the system appraised with the idea of acquiring it. It was valued at over \$40,000 and nothing was done. Again in 1923 there was a fight over increased water rates and the Council appropriated \$75.00 for legal expenses connected with the fight. But it was not until 1942 that definite steps were taken to get control. Since the Borough could not finance the purchase, a Municipal Authority was formed which could legally issue bonds with which to make the purchase. The transfer was effected in 1943, and since then the Authority has retired purchase bonds more rapidly than was anticipated in spite of increased expenses for repairs and improvements. The Authority owns 1,000 acres of watershed, a large portion of which has been reforested.

### 3. The Postoffice

The Postmasters during the early days of the village are listed in the Tioga County Histories. In 1882, Mansfield was made a Presidential Office. Rural Free Delivery Service started in 1900 and was rapidly expanded. City Delivery dates from July 1, 1928. Beginning in the Sixties, the Postmasters and the location of the office were as follows:

C. V. Elliott—1861-73, at about 11 N. Main Street.

Vine Pratt—1873-77, at about 15 N. Main Street.

M. L. Clark—1877-86, same location.

N. A. Elliott—1886-90, moved to 4 S. Main Street in 1887.



J. A. Elliott—1890-94; and 1898-1903.

J. L. Cummings—1894-98.

T. H. Bailey—1903-15.

Robert Urell—1915-23.

Elmer Cornwell—1923-36.

Francis Kelly—1936.

#### 4. Theaters

Union Hall, the third floor of the Bank Block, was used as an entertainment center until the Opera House was built in 1888-89. Many road shows came to the Opera House during the winter season. Later, Howe's Moving Pictures were first shown in Mansfield in this building. The Opera House was often used for dances and other social functions. It burned in 1913.

In 1907 the Theatorium was built and operated by Ed Saks and Chas. Miller. This building was located on Hoard Alley, back of the brick building on the corner. This was purchased by K. F. Van Norman who operated it in 1911-1916 when it burned.

In 1916 the Star Theater, now the Twain, was built by W. A. McCausland and E. G. Cornwell. It was managed by Mr. Van Norman until 1933 when Jack Myers took it over. In 1936 it was renovated and opened by Harry A. Taylor and Henry Swain. In 1940 Harry Taylor became the sole owner and since his death in 1950 his son William Taylor has managed it. The first talking pictures in Mansfield were shown here in 1929.

#### 5. Mansfield Hotels

The earliest hotel in the Borough of which we have record was the one run by Phelps, which was mentioned earlier. It was south of Corey Creek, and is probably the Johnson Apartments at the present time. At one time Phelps was accused of allowing gambling here. It also housed the Post Office in the fifties.

The Fuller House, mentioned in 1856, formerly a private house, was probably the beginning of the present Mansfield Hotel. It has been known under various names. It was the Commercial House in 1887-96. It was then sold to Mark French who remodeled it and ran it until about 1917. In 1918 it was the Hotel Taylor; later the Hotel Smith; in 1933 it was bought by C. B. Richardson; in 1934 by Mrs. Cheeseman; in 1935 by H. T. Flook; in 1939 by Mark Palmer and renamed the Marlyn. In 1945 Palmer sold to James Maitlain and in 1949 it

passed into the possession of King Rose and his wife who have owned it since except for a very short time in 1950-51. In the later 20's a fire damaged the building badly, but it was completely restored.

In 1873 there was in operation the Hotel Brundage, but how much earlier is not clear. This was at 18 S. Main Street. This building, bought by Mrs. G. N. Welch in 1903, has been run as a hotel or restaurant to the present time. Charles Campbell had it in 1906, Bert Cheeseman in 1925, Theocharus in 1937, Ernest Boyce in 1945 and Ernest Vosburg since 1946.

When the Soldiers Orphan School was removed from Mansfield in 1889, Mrs. F. A. Allen opened it as a hotel. This stood on the northwest corner of Main and Wellsboro Streets. In 1892 Mark French took it over and ran it until he went to the Mansfield Hotel in 1896 and sold it to T. H. Bailey who was running it when it burned in 1904.

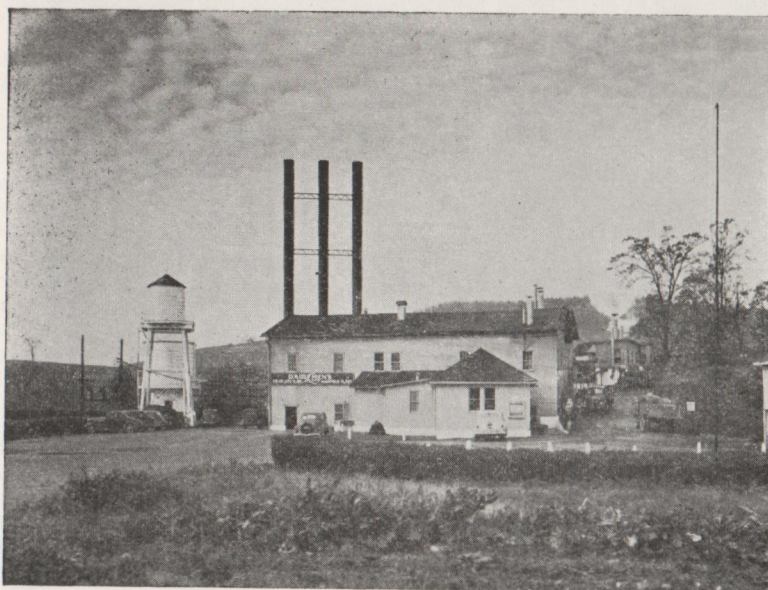
About 1881 a hotel was opened in a brick building at the south corner of Central Street and Railroad Street. This was later known as the Grand Central Hotel and was, for a time, considered the best hotel in the County. Some very fine banquets and parties were held there, not always meeting with the approval of some of the citizens not present. It burned in 1889, some guests barely escaping with their lives.

No. 8 East Wellsboro Street was run as a hotel from 1900 to 1911.

#### 6. Soldiers Orphan School

This institution was founded in 1867 by Fordyce A. Allen, later Principal of the Normal School, and very prominent in educational circles in the state. It was started in a building on the northwest corner of Main and Wellsboro Streets. Later it expanded and 28 W. Wellsboro Street was erected, and a third story was built on the Allen Block. After Mr. Allen's death in 1880, it was carried on by Mrs. Allen and Vine R. Pratt until it was closed by the State in 1889. This school supported baseball teams and bands and the students were active in community affairs. The annual reunions of the graduates in recent years have brought back many men and women to attest the fine training they received at this school. A monument to Mr. Allen, erected by funds raised by his former students, now stands at the northwest corner of Main and Wellsboro Streets.





ORIGINAL CONDENSERY BUILDING

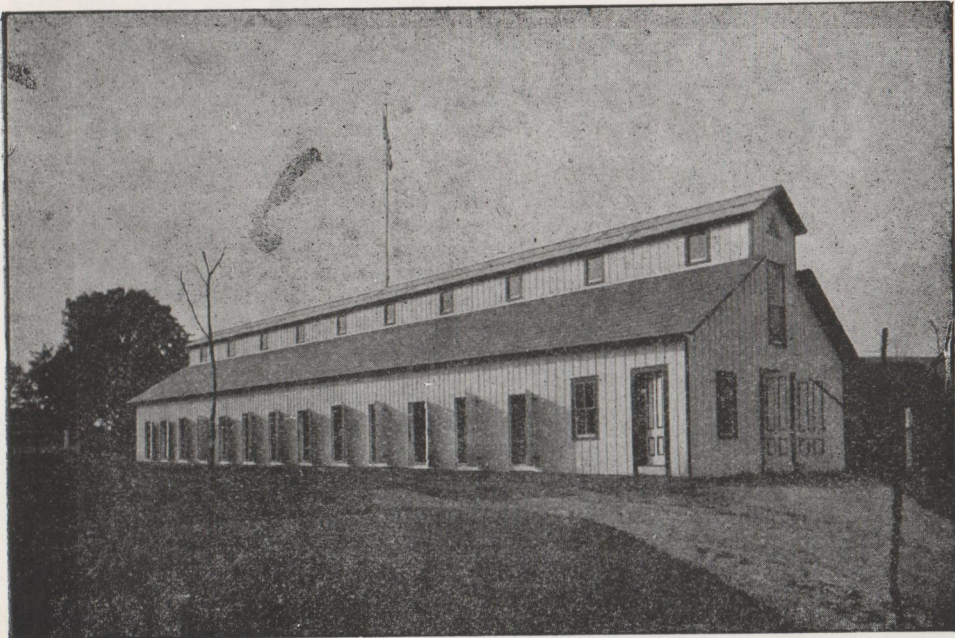


ARMCO DRAINAGE and METAL PRODUCTS COMPANY





**MANSFIELD MEMORIAL SWIMMING POOL, 1949**



**HORSE BARN, SMYTHE PARK**



## 7. Mansfield's Oldest Business Places

Not all the facts and dates given here are guaranteed to be accurate. All that can be claimed is that every effort has been made to have them as correct as possible. Sometimes the recollections of older citizens do not agree with facts found in the papers of the time. One trouble is that in writing of places of business the papers never give the street numbers and generally no idea of the location of a business. This is also true of the advertisements, which furnished a good deal of the material. But the greatest difficulty was the absence of papers in the period 1912-29.

While many businesses have been started and continued for a time, too many to note in this short history, there are many which, under different proprietors or in different locations, have established themselves as more or less fixtures in the community. Some are no longer in existence, but were important for a long time.

The oldest business of the same kind is the Harness Shop of Ernest Jupenlaz at 8 North Main Street. This business was started about 1848 by William Hollands on S. Main Street opposite the Hotel. It was later moved to S. Main Street, south of the Pitts Block and was burned out in 1883. In 1885 Hollands moved to the present location. He sold to Jaynes in 1886 and 1901 Jaynes sold to Fred Jupenlaz. Hollands was very prominent in the early days of the Borough.

It is claimed that the oldest business in the same family is the Decker Dray and Ice business. This business dates back probably to the seventies under the father of the recent owner, Dana Decker. Most of that time it has been at the present location, John Marvin bought it in 1956.

Dr. C. V. Elliott, another very prominent citizen in the early history, had a brick store at 11 N. Main Street as early as in the sixties. It is the oldest brick store in town. He sold out to J. Maltby Smith in 1891, who, in turn, sold to J. P. Bates in 1897. The building was partly burned in 1901 and immediately rebuilt. Bates sold to Harold Terry in 1931.

R. E. Olney had a jewelry store at 16 E. Wellsboro Street as early as 1867. He built the brick block in 1873 and in 1900, after his death, it was sold to Edward Saks who continued it until 1913. Until 1922 it was occupied by Dan Souders, an optometrist.

After that it was a store run by the Smiths, who had bought the building, and in 1926 Cunningham started a beauty parlor here with Ella Mae Morse as operator. She bought the business in 1927. (Now Mrs. Jennings)

Another drug store with a continuous history, but not location, is the Coles Drug Store at 2 South Main Street. In the seventies Ridgway and Cole had a drug store at approximately 17 N. Main Street. In 1874 they moved to the, at that time, new Bank Block, 6 E. Wellsboro Street, and continued in business until 1890 when they sold to Stevenson and Burnham, and in 1892 Burnham became sole owner. In 1902, at his death it was sold to Whitman, who sold to Fassmore in 1905. In 1909 Percy Coles bought the business and in 1924 moved to S. Main Street.

As early as 1864, possibly earlier, O. V. Elliott had a shoe store at 54 N. Main Street and built a brick home there in 1881. He moved to the Allen Block, then to 10 N. Main Street where he and his son, Frank K., continued until 1924, when it was moved to 6 E. Wellsboro Street. Frank died in 1925 and the business was continued until about 1928 by John E. Farrer.

One of the oldest businesses is the present T. W. Judge Co. In 1865 D. H. Pitts had a store in the neighborhood of the present 15 N. Main Street. He later moved to a store located on S. Main Street just south of the present store. This store burned and in 1873 Pitts Bros. (Dan H. and Aaron) built the brick block at the southwest corner of Main and West Wellsboro Streets. D. H. bought out his brother, and later it was Pitts and J. M. Clark, 1883; then in 1896, Pitts, Ed Ross and Tom Judge; in 1905, Pitts and Judge; and in 1908 The T. W. Judge Company. After the death of T. W. Judge in 1910 it was carried on by his son, Wade, until 1943 when, after his death, it was purchased by Herbert Peterson, who had been associated with him in the business. In 1884 the south addition to the block was built. In 1923, the smaller one story addition was built containing a grocery department, closed out in 1939. In 1931 the second story was remodeled and in 1955 new fronts were built to the center store and the old grocery store remodeled for a bakery.

From some time in the sixties N. Kingsley had a shoe store on N. Main Street. It was burned in the fire of 1882 and the brick



store at 21 N. Main Street was built to replace it. In 1885 his son, Homer, was in business with him and carried it on until 1912 when Homer died. It was sold to William Neal and in 1947 to Harry Fish.

In 1856 A. J. Ross was a merchant in Mansfield and Philip Williams became associated with him. The Bank Block was built in 1871, the first of the large corner blocks. The Bank was started in 1872. Charles Ross, the son of A. J. continued in the bank with Williams after the death of his father. Williams died in 1894 and Charles Ross continued alone until, in 1907, the Bank was reorganized as a National Bank and bought the building for \$15,000.00. In 1904 the building was remodeled, putting on a stone first story. In 1931 the bank was again reorganized, with Mr. Ross retiring, and in 1954, just fifty years after the first remodeling, the building was again remodeled continuing the stone down the south front and modernizing the interior.

In 1873 Robert Crossley, an immigrant from England, who had been a gardener for Dr. Morris, took over the greenhouses started by Mrs. S. B. Elliott and enlarged them. They were again enlarged in 1900 and in 1902. The business was continued by Robert's son William, and by William's son Robert, until 1947 when it was sold to Elwyn Kuhl.

A hardware business was going in 1873 at about 15 N. Wellsboro Street, under the name of Lutz and Kohler. This continued under various firm names until 1887 with Kohler always one partner. In 1902 it became John and Will Farrer; in 1903, Wells Shaw and Farrer; and in 1905, W. S. Farrer. In 1922 it became Farrer and Taylor and later Harry Taylor. In 1945, it was bought by Welch Cleveland. The building now in use was built in 1885-86 after the old building burned.

Another hardware business is that of Harold Strait at 2 N. Main Street. In 1876 C. E. Allen had a hardware business in town. In 1878, after the completion of the Allen Block it moved into its present location as F. A. Allen and Company. The building was, at first, a two-story building, and the third story was added for the Soldiers' Orphan School. The business became successively, Allen and Pratt in 1880, T. V. Moore and Company in 1882, Lloyd and App in 1889, George L. Strait in 1891, Strait and Wood, Strait and Retan, and George L. Strait and Sons in 1910, the pres-

ent firm name under Harold Strait as manager.

Hoard's Insurance Agency was started in 1872 by J. S. Hoard. In 1919 it became J. S. Hoard and Son and in 1925 on the death of Mr. Hoard it was run by Donald Hoard. It was sold to E. B. Strait about 1928 and in 1930 Charles Ross bought a share and ran it alone after the death of Mr. Strait in 1934. On the death of Mr. Ross, 1949, it was sold to Mrs. May Lent, and then to John Myers in 1950.

Terrance Smythe had a grist mill on the west side of the river as early as 1850. In 1857 he sold this to Clark Bailey, who with his two sons, Tom H. and J. W., continued to 1890, built a large mill, installing the new process to use winter wheat, making a good grade of flour and known as the Sun Milling Company. It was purchased by Charles S. Ross. It was continued into the twenties before it was closed, and was burned in 1934.

Spencer had a photograph gallery near the corner of N. Academy and E. Elmira Streets, probably as early as the sixties. In 1884, when the Welch block was built at the corner of N. Main and Center Streets, there was a photograph gallery on the second floor on the Center Street side. This was run by McFarland until 1901, when it was bought by McClusky and then sold to B. M. Vedder in 1909 and discontinued about 1920. W. A. Bates also had a photograph gallery in his home at the corner of Sherwood and N. Main Streets during the twenties.

Capt. Ezra Davis had a tannery north of Corey Creek on N. Main Street from about 1840 to 1865. In 1865 R. R. Kingsley bought a partnership, and in 1868 the business. It was enlarged in 1873 and was continued by R. R. and his son Charles S. until 1893. Charles S. owned the business until it was discontinued in 1910 or 11.

William Adams had a general store in the seventies at about 24 N. Main Street, with an office building north of it. This building was later, 1889, enlarged, removing the office and forming the Adams Block. The business was sold in 1876 to O. V. Elliott and Sons. In 1878 they moved to 10 N. Main Street. Erlich had a business there until 1880 when it was taken over by S. J. Shepard who continued it until 1922. The Atlantic and Pacific Grocery was in the building until 1935. From that year it has been occupied by the Tri-County



Rural Electrification. Dr. Williamson's Dental office was in this building.

In the seventies, perhaps in the late sixties, Allan Peterson, a colored man, had a barber shop in town. When the Pitts Block was built he had a shop in the basement on the Wellsboro Street side. Later he moved to 14 S. Main Street which has been a barber shop, except for a short time, ever since. In 1913 E. V. McConnell was working for him. After returning from World War I in 1920, McConnell started his own shop at 13 W. Wellsboro Street. This building had also been a Barber Shop for many years with Mead Dann as proprietor.

The Mansfield Advertiser was established in 1873 and published in the Bank Block, later upstairs at about 15 N. Main Street. It was later moved into the Fred Allen Block at 12 N. Main Street until, in 1940, it moved to its own newly erected building at 47 N. Academy Street. Present publishers are E. S. Coles and C. P. Bailey.

There were grocery stores at the corner of N. Main and Central Streets from the earliest days. Asa Mann may have had one here in 1832. They were all burned out in the fire of 1882. At that time G. N. Welch who had had a store on S. Main Street, built the brick block with two store fronts on each street. In 1896 he sold to R. W. and M. F. Rose. They ran a general store here until 1829 when they sold to Prestons, Inc., who still run it.

The New Era Mills were built by the Sherwoods as a grist mill and clothes pin factory. The building was sold, in 1888, to B. V. Strait. In 1893 Strait took in Charles Kingsley as a partner, and in 1897 Kingsley bought the business. He ran it with his son Ralph, and later Ralph alone, until 1933. It was then sold to Harry and Herbert Kohler, with Dean and Lee as managers.

In 1882 L. Cummings built a small wooden store at 45 E. Wellsboro Street. It was purchased by W. C. Miller in 1911. This building has been a bakery until 1955, but the bakers have changed frequently. The names associated with it for longer periods are: Cummings, Jupenlaz, Littley, and J. B. Loveland. This building is now an office.

In 1884, A. B. Welch built a laundry at 111 E. Elmira Street. It was bought by Wilson and Ramsdall in 1895 and in 1899 by Frank Clark. He enlarged it considerably in 1906. In 1911 it partially burned but was rebuilt. Mr. Clark was badly burn-

ed in that fire and never fully recovered. In 1939 it was taken over by Clifford Clark and from 1942-44 the last proprietor was Kastner.

In the seventies, A. R. Decker had a sash and blind factory across from the Railroad Station. This was bought in 1880 by Ed Doane and continued until 1919 when it became part of the Novelty Plant. In this factory in 1906-07 was built a boat 44 feet by 10 feet which was launched at Newburg, N. Y., and made a trip to Australia. This building burned in the 1947 fire.

In 1892 a Novelty Works was moved here from Monroeton, Pa., and located in a new building about where the North Penn Power Plant now is. Some of the workers also moved here. In 1900 it was purchased by Pitts and Ross with L. W. Obourn as superintendent. In 1923 O. L. Schanbacher and Obourn bought it and moved the machinery to the old Doane factory. In 1925 on the death of Mr. Obourn, Mr. Schanbacher took over the plant. Both before and after the fire of 1947 the plant was enlarged by several concrete buildings. At one time this plant was the largest manufacturer of children's tops in the country and shipped many carloads abroad.

15 N. Main Street was the site of the Postoffice in the seventies under M. L. Clark, in connection with a notions store. J. D. Catlin bought this business in 1901 and ran it until 1911, as a combination notions and grocery. It was continued as a grocery by Kelley and Baynes, and later by Kelley and Obourn until 1927. At that time Mrs. Harry Finesilver started a woman's furnishings store here and continued it until 1955 when she moved to the new modern store next door, No. 17 N. Main. The No. 15 building was razed and a modern brick store erected which was occupied by the Western Auto Store.

17 N. Main Street housed the Postoffice, with Vine Pratt as postmaster in the early seventies. This was afterwards used as a restaurant. This was torn down and a larger wooden building erected. George Clark, whose father had had a wagon and carriage store on W. Wellsboro Street in the old Orphan School building, and who had had a store on the corner of E. Wellsboro and St. James Streets, moved here in 1899. In 1911 he sold to Mr. Klesa and he later to Manley Benson. In 1923 Harry Finesilver started a Men's Furnishing Store here and continued it until his death in 1930. The building housed a Ford Agency here



in 1931, Biddle's Clothing Store, 1934-36, and Markson's Clothing Store, 1936-1955. In this year it was torn down and a fine new brick building erected for Mrs. Finesilver's Store.

19 N. Main Street was the site of a grocery store owned by H. J. Ripley in 1870. This was burned in 1882 and Ripley sold the lot to Justus B. Clark who built a brick store in which he sold groceries in 1883. In 1892 he sold to Lewis H. Moody, who was an insurance agent. Around 1900 A. W. Kear started a five and dime store here. It has been a five and dime ever since under several owners among whom were McCausland, Lamphier, Percy Wilson, Peter Abrams from about 1928, and Hazel Witmore since 1941.

25 N. Main Street has been the site of a furniture store, or furniture and undertaking most of the time since it was built, following the fire of 1882. In 1880, Rolason bought the undertaking business of Beach and Clark, which had existed for many years, and located on S. Main Street. Rolason moved into this building in 1883 or 84, with Metcalf as a partner. Metcalf sold his interest to L. B. Shaw in 1897. In 1911 the firm dissolved and Shaw continued the undertaking, first in the Holden building on E. Wellsboro Street and later in the rear of the Grange Bank. The furniture store continued under Rolason, under Kear for a short time, and, in 1914 under Lynn Hall. L. B. Shaw was joined by his son Wilford in the undertaking business in 1925 and they returned to this building in 1927. In 1935 Wilford bought the business and continued it here until 1937 when he moved to the Funeral Home. The Store was a Grand Union Grocery after 1939, then the Broderick Furniture Store in 1945, and in 1950 the Furniture Store of Raymond Van Noy.

In 1889 W. C. Miller bought the T. J. Rogers Marble Works, located on East Main Street and moved them to the present location at 41 E. Wellsboro Street. Edward C. Russell has been the proprietor since 1919.

M. H. Shepard and Sears bought out, in 1889, the old Westbrook Clothing Store which had been in existence since some time in the eighties. For a time it was Shepard and Shipbanker, but Shepard became the sole owner in 1899. At this time the store was located in the Bank Block on S. Main Street. In 1906, Shepard and T. H. Bailey built the block at the northwest cor-

ner of N. Main and W. Wellsboro Streets, and the store has been there since that time. After the death of Mr. Shepard the store was bought by John Myers and Merle Garrison in 1938. In 1950 Mr. Garrison became the sole owner and it is now known as Garrison's Men's Shop.

Michael Shipbanker, who worked as a tailor for Shepard, and for a time owned an interest in the store, started in business for himself in a wooden building at 9 N. Main Street in 1899. In 1905 he built the store at that number and continued in business until his death in 1929. For a couple of years there was a restaurant in the building, but from 1932 to 1956 it was occupied by the Baynes Shoe Company, now owned by the Bond Shoe Company.

8 E. Wellsboro Street, known as the Holden Building, has been a restaurant most of the time for at least three quarters of a century. It was known as the Hotel Wilcox for a time after 1909. Fred Spencer, Holden, Ray Pitts and A. H. Vosburg have been the men more prominently identified with the building. When not a restaurant it has been an Undertaking business under L. B. Shaw and a Music Store under Alden Bowser.

Around 1892 Welt Smith had a shoe repair shop and store in a wooden building on the west side of S. Main Street across from the hotel. In 1903 Shepard and Miller built the brick store, 7 N. Main Street, and he moved to that building. This business was sold to Will Miller in 1916 and in 1932 it became the Baynes Shoe Company and moved to 9 N. Main. Leon Baynes was the manager of the business 1916-1956.

In 1907 a Grange National Bank was organized and located in the new Shepard and Bailey Block, 3 N. Main Street. The Bank failed in 1917 and was absorbed by the First National Bank.

From 1908 until 1939 A. H. Vosburg had a restaurant and ice cream business in the Bank Block on S. Main Street. This was continued by Jay Bunn for a time, but the store was taken over to provide for the expansion of the bank.

Ray Owens had a music store in a wooden building about where 38 S. Main Street is. He moved to 17 N. Main Street in 1911. After the Hotel Allen burned in 1904, the rear end of the hotel, undamaged, was turned sideways and moved west to form what is now 17-19 W. Wellsboro Street. Howard



and Grant Lewis had a furniture store here for a short time but Owens bought the building and moved his Music Store here where it continued until 1935. The building is, since then, occupied by the North Penn Power Company, but is known as the Owens Block.

Miss Nellie Rockwell had a Millinery business in Mansfield for over forty years. This was discontinued about 1944.

Miss Mary Crossley was also a milliner for thirty-five years, beginning in 1891, at 26 N. Main Street.

A Foundry, which was started by Paine and Wilson in 1878, then by Moore and Hanson in 1890, was owned by Moore and Tomlinson from 1892, and later by Floyd Tomlinson at 13 E. Main Street, was enlarged by him in 1910 and sold to Anthony Billard in 1942. Billard also had a building in the park, but when this burned he moved part of his plant to Covington.

A Bottling Works was started in Mansfield by M. H. Shepard and A. H. Vosburg about 1917. George Myers worked for them for about three years and then purchased the plant at 22 Sherwood Street, and has continued the business to the present time.

J. D. Catlin, who had a grocery business at 15 N. Main Street from 1901, built a new store at 150 N. Main Street, in 1911 and continued in business there until he sold out to Brace in 1924, and in 1945 it was purchased by H. H. Burke.

In 1908 M. H. Shepard started a Woman's Department over his clothing store with Miss Maybelle Wright in charge. In 1927 it was moved to 6 N. Main Street and in 1931 it was purchased by Miss Wright. She sold it to Mrs. Jennie Cox Hendricks in 1949, the present owner.

Will Avery had a Marble Works in the Borough from about 1904 or 05 until about 1928 or 29. It was located in the building on Central Street now occupied by Rieppel.

Around 1921 an Elmira Street Grocery was started at 90 E. Elmira Street. It was run at various times by Crippen, Stella Dyer and Sons, and was taken over in 1932 by Eldred Mudge. In 1939 it was sold to Leo Allis, but was repurchased in 1942 by Eldred and Cole Mudge and Irene Mudge and Ellery Beagle continued the business after the death of Eldred and in 1956 Ellery Beagle became the sole owner.

C. M. Thompson has been selling milk from the Morris Farms since 1916, except for a period during World War I. Earlier than that, from about 1900, when the farm was worked by Reuben Curtis, Curtis had a milk route. In 1913 before the Borough passed an ordinance forbidding the sale of unpasteurized milk, he put in the first plant in Mansfield. In 1849 he finished the modern plant and Dairy Bar at 103 W. Wellsboro Street.

George Dyer started an Electrical Contracting business in 1923 in a barn back of 64 E. Elmira Street. In 1942 he took over the old Laundry building, continuing the contracting business and also selling electrical appliances.

Cecil H. Garrison started selling insurance in town in 1923 and has continued until the present time.

In 1926 James Caracciolo worked in the shoe store of John Farrer. He moved to his own shop at 16 S. Main Street in 1927 and has been there since that time.

George L. Palmer started a Jewelry Store at 11 W. Wellsboro Street about 1903, later known as Palmer Brothers after his brother Robert joined him. In 1918, after the failure of the Grange Bank, they moved to 3 N. Main Street, where they remained until 1938 when they dissolved partnership. George Palmer continued, at his home, the Optometry business and repair work until his death in 1953. Robert Palmer had a Jewelry Store for a few years at 12 W. Wellsboro Street.

The Atlantic and Pacific Company originally had a small store in a wooden building south of the Bank Block. In 1922 they moved to 24 N. Main Street. In 1935 they moved to 7 N. Main Street and in 1950 to their present quarters at 25 S. Main Street.

In 1920 Chester Green started a Grocery on W. Wellsboro Street. He soon moved to the old Holden Building at 8 E. Wellsboro Street. In 1926 he sold out to the Market Basket Corporation, but remained as manager until 1939 when the store was moved to 10 S. Main Street where the Judge grocery had been. This store closed in January, 1955.

In 1897 Fred Spencer bought the Grocery business of W. A. Pitts which was in the corner store of the Pitts-Judge Block. He sold to H. M. Griggs, who had been a partner in the business for some time, in 1901.



For some years Fred Duell had a Meat Market in the rear of this store. Griggs sold to L. N. Goodall in 1916. In 1923 T. W. Judge took over the store and moved it to the new addition on the south of the block in 1924.

From around 1927 W. A. McCausland had a Cut Rate Drug Store south of the Bank Block. He sold to Walter Swartwood in 1935 and he to Helen Wood in 1939. She moved the business to 10 E. Wellsboro Street in 1940 and sold to Daisy Harrington in 1946. This store was discontinued in 1951.

G. Ray Edgerton started a five and ten cent store at 3 N. Main Street in 1939. He sold out the same year to Mark Sullivan and he to George Kelly in 1941. Peter Abrams bought it in 1942 but sold to the present owner, Mr. and Mrs. Ross Sours.

From about 1918 to 1934, 6 E. Wellsboro Street was a gift shop owned by Mrs. Larison. In 1936 Max Squires started a Dairy Store here and sold it in 1943 to Mr. and Mrs. Vergil Sours.

Joseph Garside started the Toy Store at 32 N. Main Street in 1944.

The Red and White Grocery at 145 E. Main was started in 1936. It was enlarged in 1954 by Melvin Rauscher who owns it.

In 1937 Markson's Clothing Store of Elmira opened a branch in a wooden building south of the Bank Block. In 1938 it was moved to 17 N. Main Street and in 1955 to the Pitts or Judge Block in the store vacated by the Postoffice. This portion of the block was completely remodeled at this time.

About 1932 W. L. Fullinger had a Diner on the east side of S. Main Street. G. Ray Edgerton bought the diner in 1933 and built a new one at 19 S. Main Street. This is the present Johnson's Truck Lines office. In 1941 he built the present diner at 5 S. Main, now owned by Walter Kline, 1956.

In 1946 Roy Estep started a Jewelry Store at 28 N. Main Street, and moved in 1950 to his present location at 11 W. Wellsboro Street.

In 1893 Elliott and Allen had a business

dealing in coal, wood, lime and cement. In 1896 they sold to Morgan E. Rose. This was located at 28 W. Wellsboro Street, part of the old Orphan School property. Charles McDowell was the manager of this business from 1897 on and bought it after the death of Mr. Rose. In 1945 the business was purchased by Wilbur Johns who moved it to the newly erected concrete building at 50 W. Wellsboro Street. Besanceney Brothers bought the business in 1953 and soon after discontinued it.

Warren Rose developed a milk shipping and cheese making business throughout the County in the early years of the century. He built the original milk shipping station where the Dairyman's League Plant now is. In 1921 the League took over the plant and in 1952 tore down the old buildings and put up the present modern plant.

There was a Grand Union Grocery from about 1925 at 10 N. Main Street. It moved, in 1939, to 23 N. Main Street and opened as a Supermarket, but was discontinued in 1941.

In 1940 Melvin Goodrich started a dry cleaning business at 14 S. Main Street. In 1946-47 he built a concrete building at 97 E. Elmira Street and transferred his business to that location.

It has been difficult to trace the history of the News Rooms of the early days. Ray Longbothum had a news room and bicycle repair shop in a wooden building south of the Bank Block for some years. He sold his building to the Cigar Factory. John Stout also had the bicycle repair shop and newsroom in 1919. Later that was taken over by Smith, at least as far as the news room was concerned. He sold to Philip Farrer in 1926 and he to Earl Cruttenden in 1941. This News Room was at 12 S. Main Street as it still is. In 1956 it was purchased by Dean Davey.

In 1949 W. C. Barnes started an Insurance Office at 28 W. Wellsboro Street.

George and Mrs. Porter and their little candy shop located about where the A & P Store now is, will be remembered by those who were in Mansfield in the 90's and early 1900's.



## XII. The Automobile

### 1. Paving



THE Automobile came to Mansfield when Ed Ross bought a three-wheel White Steamer in 1902 and changed to a Stanley Steamer in 1903. Also in 1903 George A. Clark had an Oldsmobile with handle steering. From this time on changes in the appearance of Mansfield came with increasing rapidity. In 1905 the road from Mansfield to Covington was built and on September 4th the Council adopted the provisions of the State law regarding aid in the development of highways and there was much discussion on the relative merits of "brick" and "McAdam" roads. In 1906 there was a formal request to the state for paving Main, Elmira and Wellsboro Streets. In 1907 an ordinance was passed to accept state aid for a sixteen-foot payment, partly brick and partly macadam for Main Street to Elmira Street, West Elmira Street and Wellsboro Street.

However, no action from the state was forthcoming until in 1913 there was another petition made. This time there was favorable action and in 1914, at a special election, a \$30,000.00 bond issue was authorized for highway construction. On May 13th the contract was signed and on July 21st an ordinance was passed that property owners pay two-thirds of the cost where extra width was provided. The road was of brick construction, fifty-six feet wide from Central Street to Normal Avenue, then dropped to forty feet to Elmira Street and the railroad, and then to sixteen feet. In 1915 extra paving from Second Street to Fourth Street was laid with the property owners paying two-thirds the cost.

The first speed limit signs were authorized on Oct. 7, 1913, and in 1916 there were complaints about speeding on Main Street. The next step was the authorization of gas pumps, as detailed later.

In 1920, April 12, an ordinance was passed providing for the paving of Main Street from Prospect Street to the Borough line. By 1923 the citizens were demanding better roads on the side streets and the paving of East Wellsboro, Central, Railroad from Central to Elmira Streets was authorized. This was done by the company which was building the road from Mansfield to Tioga.

In 1924 East Wellsboro Street was paved after a meeting of the citizens affected had been held and agreed to pay the one-third cost of the extra width. By this date the road to Troy was nearly finished. An election for the approval of an additional bond issue of \$10,000.00 for road construction was held and the issue approved, but was not used until 1930.

In 1926 was passed the first Traffic ordinance. Also an Ordinance was passed providing for the paving of Elmira Street subject to State acceptance, but was not accepted.

In 1928 St. James, First, Second, Normal Avenue, Sherwood and Elmira Street to Extension were paved. In this year also the State built the new concrete bridge over Corey Creek at Main Street.

In 1934 E. Elmira Street from Extension Street to the Borough limits was paved by the State and Decker Street also. These were made State Highways. West Wellsboro Street was paved by the State and the extra width from the railroad bridge to Main Street was financed by the Borough and property owners.

In 1936 the East Main Street paving to Second Street was authorized and North Main Street was improved by the State.

In 1939 N. Academy Street was paved from Sullivan Street to Elmira Street and in 1940 the Council approved the plans of the State to widen and repave South Main Street and to pave a thirty-six-foot road from the railroad bridge to the Borough line on the new road to Wellsboro.

In 1945 the State Highway Department resurfaced E. Wellsboro and Sullivan Streets and in 1946 rebuilt N. Main from Prospect Street to the Borough line.

### 2. Garages

Probably the first garage in Mansfield was an old blacksmith shop on the lot across from the Episcopal Church, in 1909, run by Rockwell and Baker. In 1918 two permits for gas pumps to be placed in front of business places were granted, and by 1925 many others had been requested. In 1921 C. M. Thompson built a "drive-in" station on N. Main Street, No. 97, said to



be the first such station between Buffalo and Washington. It has been an "Atlantic Station" since that time.

In 1920 R. M. Swan built the garage, 31 S. Main Street, and in 1923 Sam Bishop the garage at the corner of College Avenue and Main Street. Bryan Husted bought the Swan Garage, known since as the Chevrolet Garage, and in 1931 built an addition at 25 S. Main Street which is now occupied by the Atlantic and Pacific Grocery. These two buildings were under the management of Adams from 1932, Krise from 1933, Evans from 1936 and King Rose from 1940 except for the period 1951-54 when it was run by Baldwin. The Bishop garage was run by Bishop to 1927, by Raleigh, and by Loomis until 1941 when it was sold to King Rose.

In 1920 there is mention of an Elmira Street Garage under S. B. McConnell and Son; under Herbert Crippen in 1921; McConnell and Wood later, and from 1926 mostly under Robert Wilson until 1946 when it was sold to Lester Merrick, and in 1950 to Howard Davis.

Around 1927 the McClure Motor Co. had a garage in a wooden building where 25 S. Main Street now is. When this was torn down by Bryan Husted they moved, 1931, to 17 N. Main Street and were there until about 1934.

In 1925 Kilgore built the second "drive-in" station and Garage at 133 N. Main Street and continued there until he sold to Wells and Goodall in 1938. This firm had started in the rear of 17 N. Main Street about 1935 and has continued to the present, also starting the only tire recapping

business in Mansfield in 1944.

Howard Pavis started a garage in the old Hoard barn on Hoard Street in 1929. In 1930 he moved to the old livery barn back of the Adams Block selling Plymouth and Chrysler cars. In 1935 he built the concrete garage at 19 E. Wellsboor Street where he remained until 1945 when he leased to Howard Brown, who was there until 1954.

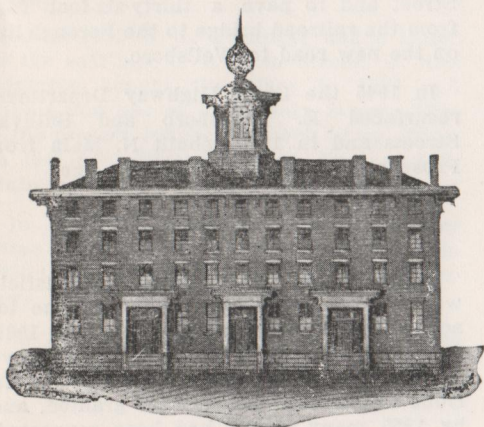
Kilgore, in 1929, started another Filling Station and Garage at 167 Sullivan Street. He sold to Lester Merrick in 1936. Lee Smith bought the plant in 1946, but sold to Bernard Randolph in 1950. This Garage was greatly enlarged by Lester Merrick.

In 1934 C. L. Johnson built the large concrete Garage at 19 S. Main Street for his trucking business. In 1956 he leased the main portion to Ralph Evans for a Ford Agency.

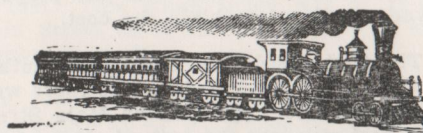
In 1934 the old DeWitt brick house at 44 S. Main Street was torn down and a "drive-in" filling station erected there by Harry Taylor.

In 1944 a garage was built at the south end of town and in 1948 Wilson and Knapp built a garage on N. Academy Street near Corey Creek.

Early automobile dealers were: W. C. Miller, who had the first Ford Agency in 1906, later the Dodge, and in 1920 the Reo; Charles Early who was the second Ford Dealer; E. C. Russell, who was the second Dodge Dealer; Wm. Kilgore, who sold at various times the Chalmers, the Cole 8, and the Studebaker; Manley Benson, who, in 1916, sold the Overland.



MANSFIELD CLASSICAL  
SEMINARY, 1857



TIOGA and ELMIRA STATE  
LINE RAILROAD  
CUT USED IN ADS OF  
APRIL 2, 1884



### XIII. Some Organizations



RIENDSHIP Lodge No. 247, F. & A. M., was chartered in 1850 and has moved its quarters several times. For about eighteen months in 1858-59, it moved to Covington. In 1860 it returned to Mansfield. About 1863 it met in what is now the Erie Freight building, then the Station. From 1870-1882 it was in the Cigar Factory. From 1882-89 it was in 54 N. Main Street. From 1889-95 it was over the Kingsley Shoe Store, then over the Kohler Hardware to 1920, then over 3 N. Main Street to 1940 and since then over 23 N. Main Street.

The Grand Army of the Republic was organized in 1875 and met at first over the M. L. Clark store. In 1886 it moved to the Pitts Block and in 1893 to the Allen Block where it remained until it disbanded.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows was organized in 1889. Until 1914 the Lodge met in the Pitts Block. At that time it moved to its present quarters in the Bank Block.

The Universalist Church congregation of twelve members organized in 1880 and for many years was served by Rev. Emma Bailey, 1882-87 and 1890-95. They met first on the second floor of the Bank Block over the drug store, but purchased the old Methodist property, corner of W. Elmira and N. Main Streets, in 1882 and worshipped there until 1926 when the property was taken over by the Seventh Day Adventists.

The Tioga Valley Grange was started in 1890 and met at first in Pitts Hall. In 1894 it moved to the Allen Block. In 1910 the land was bought and in 1917 the present Grange Building was built.

The Lions Club in Mansfield was chartered in 1939 and has been very active in promoting community and charitable causes, especially the swimming pool and recreational projects, Polio drives, etc.

The State Police established a headquarters here as early as 1925 over Husted's Chevrolet Garage. Ralph Day was the first Trooper assigned here. Their headquarters were changed frequently at first, being located a year or two each at 131, 116, 217 S. Main Street. In 1930 they moved to 55 N. Main Street and remained there until, in 1954, a home for the unit was built at 300 S. Main Street.

#### The Business Men's Association

The Mansfield Business Men's Association is composed not only of business men, but also includes teachers, preachers, farmers, professional men, and, in fact, anyone concerned with the civic needs of Mansfield and vicinity. Neither membership nor activities are limited.

The organization was formed in 1913 by progressive citizens who felt that much more could be accomplished in the way of borough improvements through an organization. The main objectives at the beginning were improved roads in the borough and hard-top highways leading to and from Mansfield. Howard Vosburg was the first president, and was followed by Leon Baynes and others. It was revitalized after the war and Herbert Peterson was president for several years. More recently Oscar Lutes was president for several years.

It would be difficult to list all the accomplishments of the Association, but the following are the more important which have been initiated or sponsored:

Main Street pavement; Pickle Hill and Newtown Hill macadam roads; present Route 6 to Wellsboro, saving several miles over the old road by Richards Bridge; development and improvement of both Routes 6 and 15; uniforms for the High School Band; substantial funds for the College Athletic program; lobbying successfully several times against moves to close the college by legislative committees; pavilion at Smythe Park for campers; summer playground at Smythe Park; Christmas Street decorations; Halloween Parade; Fourth of July celebration; securing Carnegie Library; securing the State Armory; first motor Fire Engine and Pumper; Memorial Swimming Pool.

For several years, and at present the one principal objective of the Association has been to attract new industry to Mansfield. Some results have been achieved. Armco Iron, a nationally known industry has established a plant here. It will ever be the prime aim of the Association to be on the alert for, and to promote, that which is in the best interests of the community.



## The American Legion

Following preliminary meetings held late in 1919, Austin-Cox Post No. 478 was formally organized and a charter granted in January, 1920. The Post was named in memory of Gerald Austin and John Cox who lost their lives while in the Service.

The Charter Members were: Herbert Peterson, Donald Hoard, Ransom Keeney, John Doane, Harry Taylor, Robert Palmer, Harold Strait, John Hatfield, Fay Kilgore, Guy Brown, Charles Ross, Anson Smith, Ronald Kichline, Casper Gillette, Wade Judge.

At first, meetings were held in the Red Cross Rooms over Strait's Hardware. For a short period a room in the Borough building was used as headquarters. Then, for about thirty years, the Post occupied the third floor of the Judge Block. In 1952 the present American Legion Home, located on the corner of College Avenue and S. Main Street was acquired. This is a fine property, conveniently located, and will be a permanent home and headquarters.

Membership in the Post is comprised of veterans from Mansfield, Covington, Mainesburg and the surrounding Townships.

The Post has been active since the beginning in sponsoring or participating in community betterment, recreation and education. It has been loyally supported in all of its activities by the American Legion Auxiliary. Among some of the better known projects of the Legion have been:

Purchase and installation of the original boulevard lights at the corners of Main and Wellsboro Streets.

Purchase, installation and maintenance of the original children's playground equipment at Smythe Park, and provided for the employment of supervisors of the playground.

Conducted the Fourth of July celebration and Memorial Day exercises for many years.

Awarded medals annually to outstanding students in the local schools.

Junior League Baseball and, at various times, Boy Scout Troops.

The Post has supported the continuing

activities of the National Organization for proper care, hospitalization and rehabilitation of disabled veterans, child welfare, education and adequate national defense.

## The Fire Department

The earlier Hose Companies have been mentioned in the periods in which they were active. Beginning about 1906 the Citizens Hose Company was formed, the older companies having become inactive. The only records up to 1914 are those dealing with the annual New Years parties and the use of the social rooms. From 1914 to 1917, when the company was reorganized, minutes are available. Robert Crossley was president in 1914 and Earl Shaw, secretary. Earl was also secretary of the Mansfield Hose Company most of the time until 1950, over thirty years of service. The Citizens Hose Company was active in the Fireman's Association and competed regularly in the events at the regional meetings of the Association, wearing distinctive uniforms.

In January, 1921, the American Legion planned to start a second Hose Company. The Citizens Hose Company thought this was unnecessary and proposed a merger of the proposed company with the old company. This idea prevailed and twenty-six interested citizens formed the new organization with the name, "Mansfield Hose Company," with Dr. H. C. Kutz as president and W. R. Avery as chief. This Company is still very active and has rendered wonderful service to the community without any reward other than the respect and support of the citizens.

In July, 1926, the minutes contain mention of agitation for the purchase of a pumper. Later that summer, a Carnival was sponsored and \$150.00 cleared. In March of 1927 a Bazaar was held in the Grange Hall. The proceeds of this, together with a donation of \$1,000.00 from the college and many others from merchants and citizens, more than paid for the first pumper. In August of 1934 an auxiliary fire truck was purchased by the Company from the city of Lyons for \$375.00. In 1946 and in 1956 new pumpers were bought by the Council. The efficiency of the Company brought about a considerable reduction in fire insurance rates in the Borough. The members of the Company have attended schools of instruction and demonstrations. An aux-



iliary fire police unit is very efficient. With in the past two years a short wave radio system has been put in operation throughout the County and mutual aid plans worked out with the neighboring communities. All Mansfield equipment is a part of this system. In 1956 a tank truck has been purchased for use in fires outside the Borough. These townships pay regularly for fire protection. The Borough Council supports the Company in every way possible.

#### Women's Clubs

The two oldest Women's Clubs in Mansfield are the Columbian Literary Exchange which was organized in 1892, and the Mansfield Literary Club, organized in 1896. These Clubs, together with the Outlook Club and the Utopian Club which were organized considerably later, have been active in promoting civic welfare through their civic committees.



AMERICAN LEGION HOME, 1951



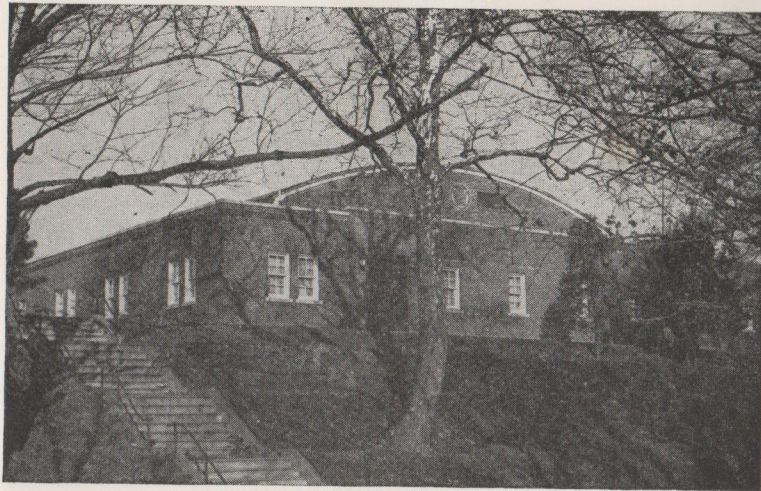


ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

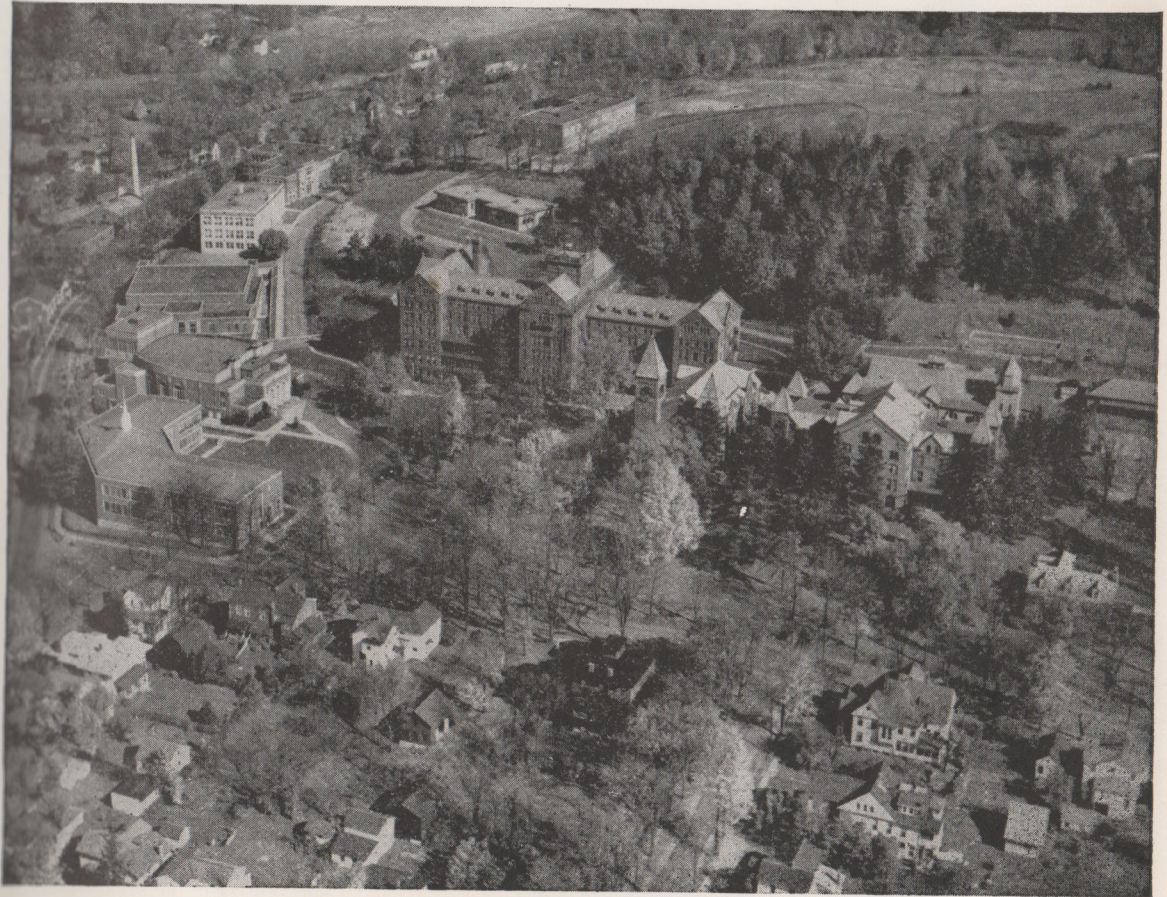


MODEL SCHOOL, 1914





NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY

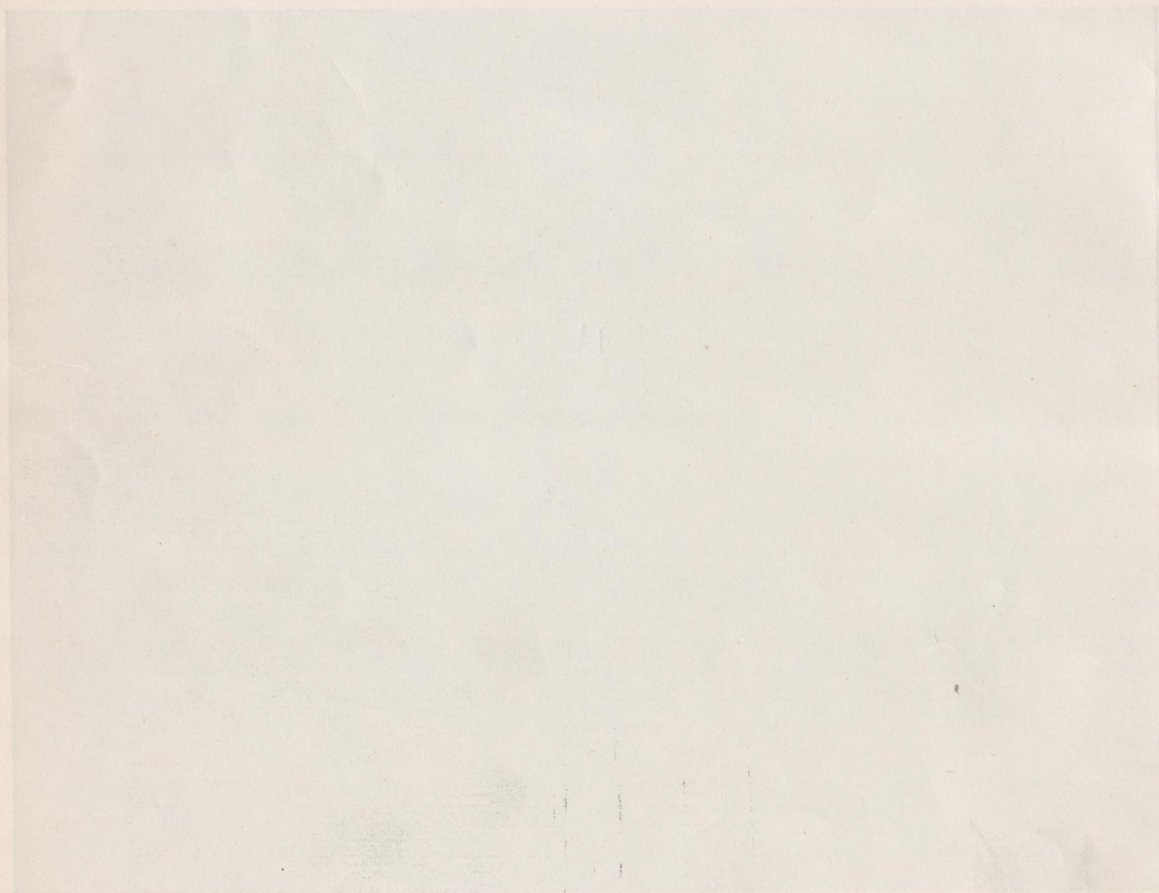


AIR VIEW OF COLLEGE





NATIONAL GUARD ARCHIVE



THE NEW YORK COLLEGE







